

Read these words and employ them wisely.

RARITIES IN THE LIGHT OF COMMON SENSE

Walter Breen

Vice President, FCI

Every so often it is worthwhile to return to the paramount, perennial questions: How rare is this date? Are there a couple of dozen, a couple of hundred, a couple of thousand, or a couple of million around? Do the price scales in the red book and the gray sheet reflect auction performance, or dealers' wishful thinking, or sheer guesswork?

Constant dealer repetition of "Very Rare," "Extremely Rare" --or even "Excessively Rare"--has generated, on the one hand, a vast collection of erroneous ideas, and on the other hand a cynical skepticism of all similar claims. Even after nearly forty years, Dr. Sheldon's pungent comment still applies: "Numismatics ... has always had its shady fringe of unscrupulous dealers--men who exaggerate condition, rarity, and value when they sell, and understate some or all of these when they buy. These men depend on a large turnover in the collector population, with a resulting continuous supply of suckers. ... Dealers' dreams do sometimes get into print." (Early American Cents, pp. 29, 35.)

The very first thing to keep in mind, therefore, is that between actual rarity and price the relationship is never as clear-cut as economics textbooks would lead you to believe. Part of the reason is in the nomenclature. Strictly speaking, rare means that only a limited number of collectible specimens exist. The definition is unavoidably vague: how many is "a limited number"? This is partly why Sheldon insisted on making his 8-point rarity scale quantitative, from R-1 "common" to R-8 "unique or nearly unique--not over 3 in collectors' hands." Its automatic limitations: 1) often the actual number extant cannot be known with certainty; 2) dealers using such estimates are under pressure--by their own greed and their consignors'--to exaggerate. Most conspicuously, this occurs when a coin was listed long ago as R-7 ("4 to 12 known") but continues to be so listed after a dozen more have turned up.

This is partly why the so-called law of supply and demand does not work in the coin market. Nor can any attempt to modify its mathematical formulation make it work. Incompleteness and varying delays in diffusion of essential updated information are only part of the reason; there are many ad hoc exceptions in each denomination. Price levels on these vary more with publicity than with actual numbers known. Information that could affect price levels is also often manipulated by those in a position to determine the timing of publicity. The more often you are told that this or that date is rare, the more likely you are to believe it,

even when new specimens are continuing to appear. The more the market for a particular series is manipulated, the more likely that the publicity will stimulate demand.

The way this usually works: a few dealers hoard individual issues or series, publish offers to buy while temporarily offering none for sale, make certain that the buy offers get into the gray sheet; then, after enough others have begun imitating them, especially if the new prices have affected the red book, they unload. A few months later the process repeats with a different series. Your only recourse in this game is to learn the truth about each series. Then you can decide whether to buy a particular series now, or later, or not at all.

In the following sections, I propose to go through the entire series of federal coinages (half cents to double eagles and commemoratives), checking for alleged rarity. In the process, a few balloons are inevitably going to be punctured, and some other issues will show up as rarer than formerly believed. Hitherto unpublished data are from my Encyclopedia of U.S. Coins (Doubleday, in press). As that book deals entirely with major varieties (those in which at least one letter punch, numeral punch, larger design element, or layout, differs from other coins of the same type), rather than minor (positional) varieties, I shall follow the same procedure here.

HALF CENTS

Two and One Half Dollar U.S. Gold 1796-1834

In four volumes 1796-1929: 1796-1834, 1834-39, 1840-1907, 1908-29.

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Second Edition.

20,216,590 pieces coined 1796-1929.

Over 636 varieties & die states

Many pedigrees, Pattern & Trial-Pieces, counterfeits listed.

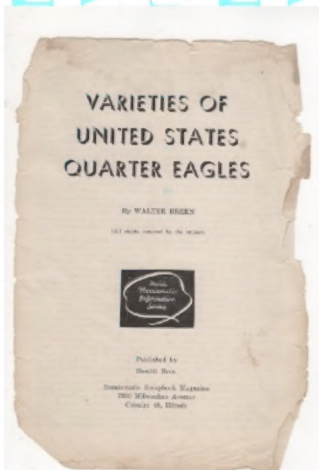
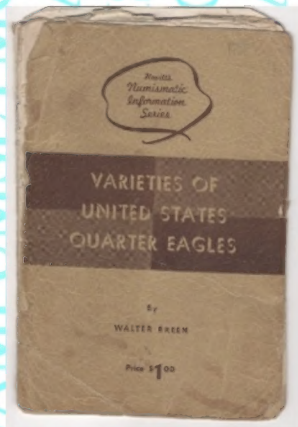
WB's observations, vetted. Compiled from his records, accompanied with his source material shown, for historical purposes only.

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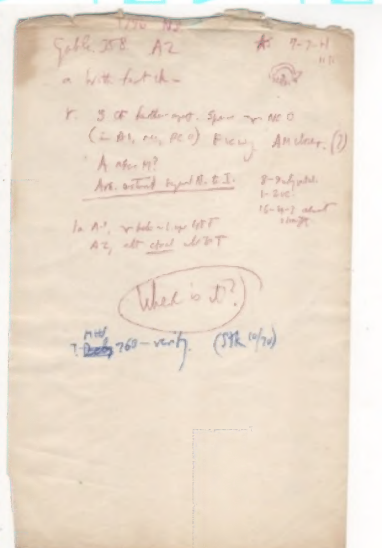
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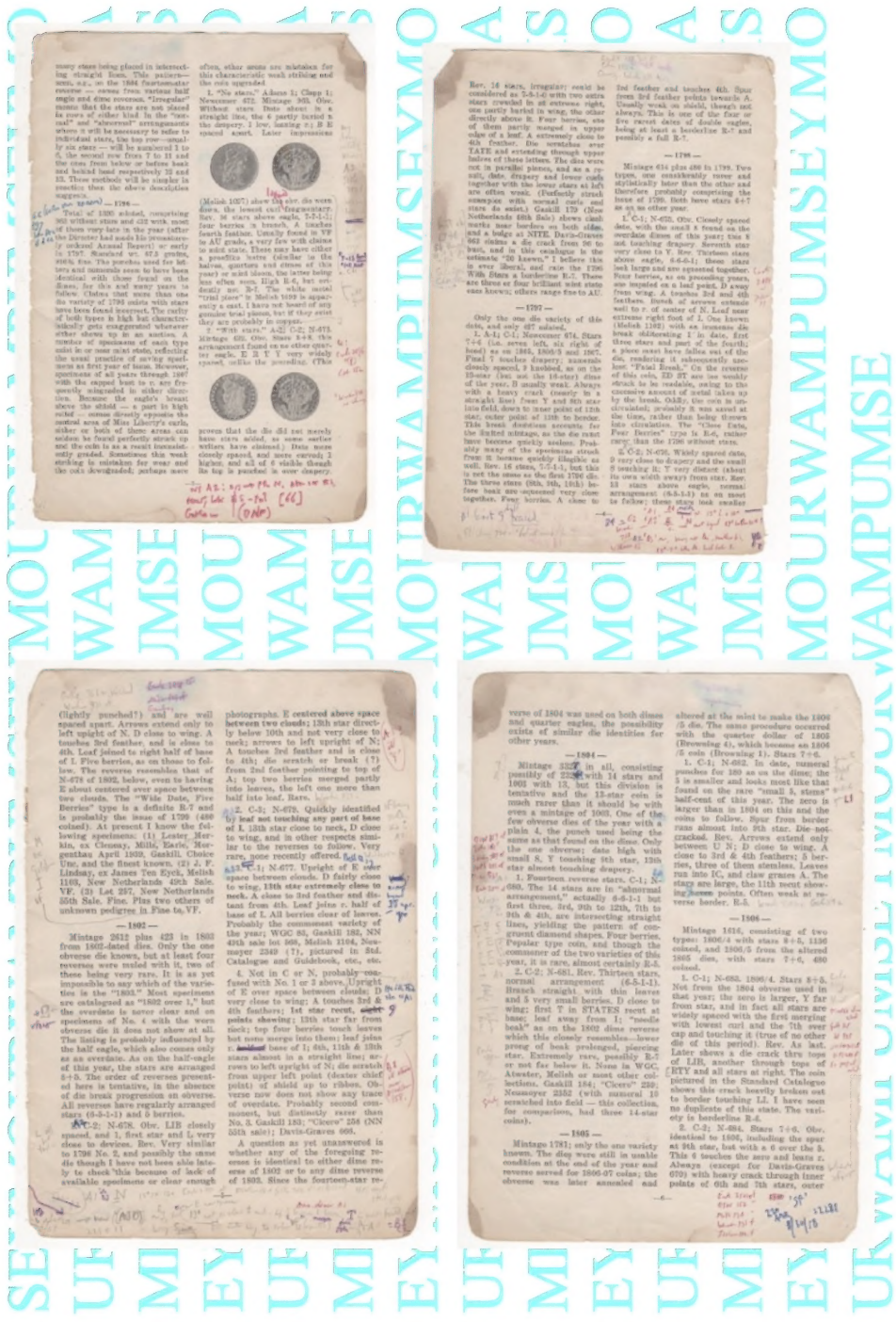
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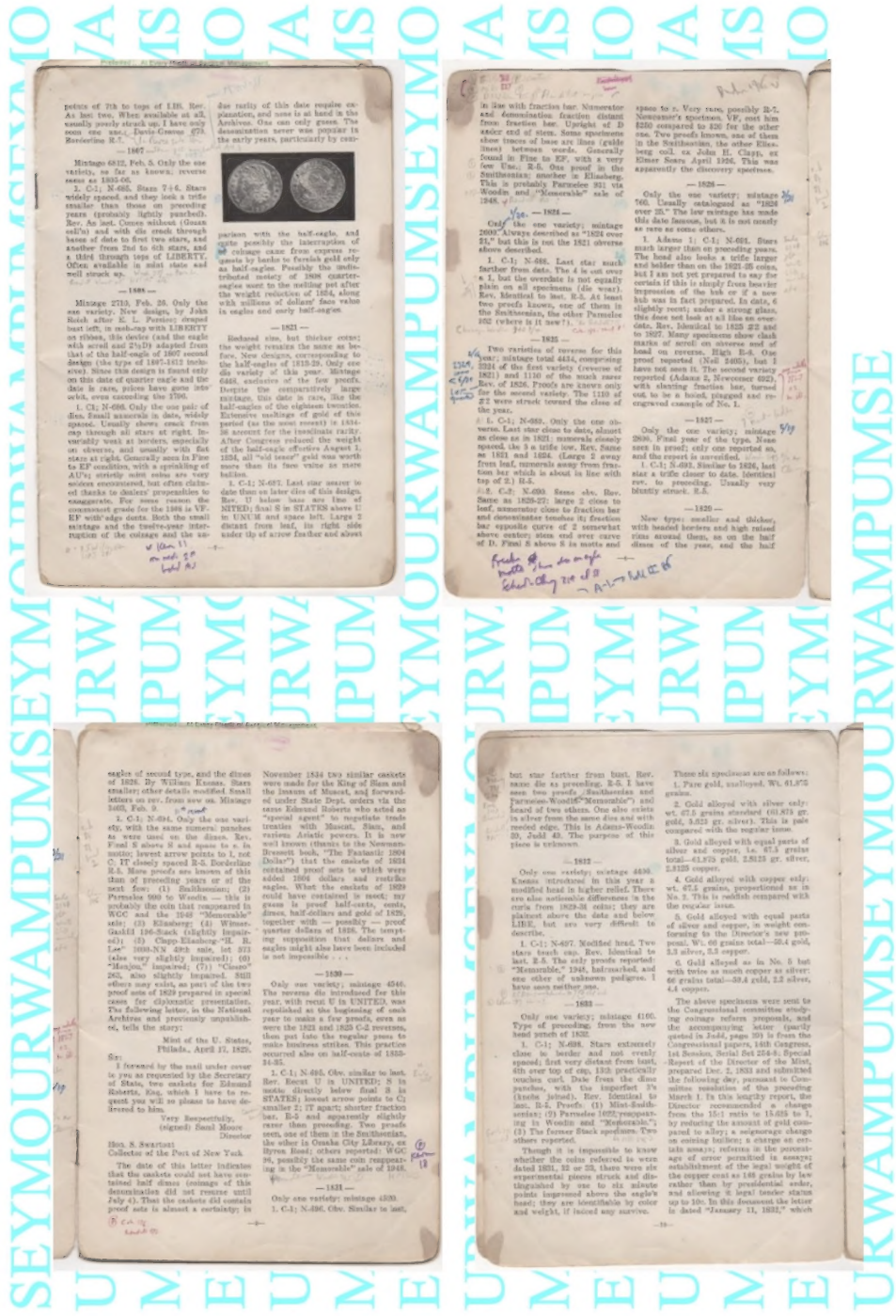
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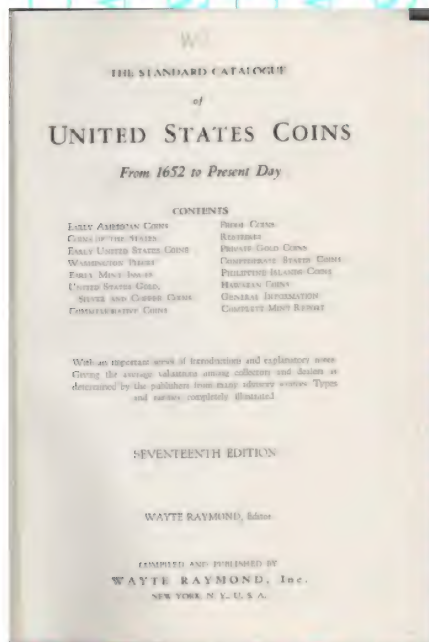


WB's annotated copy.

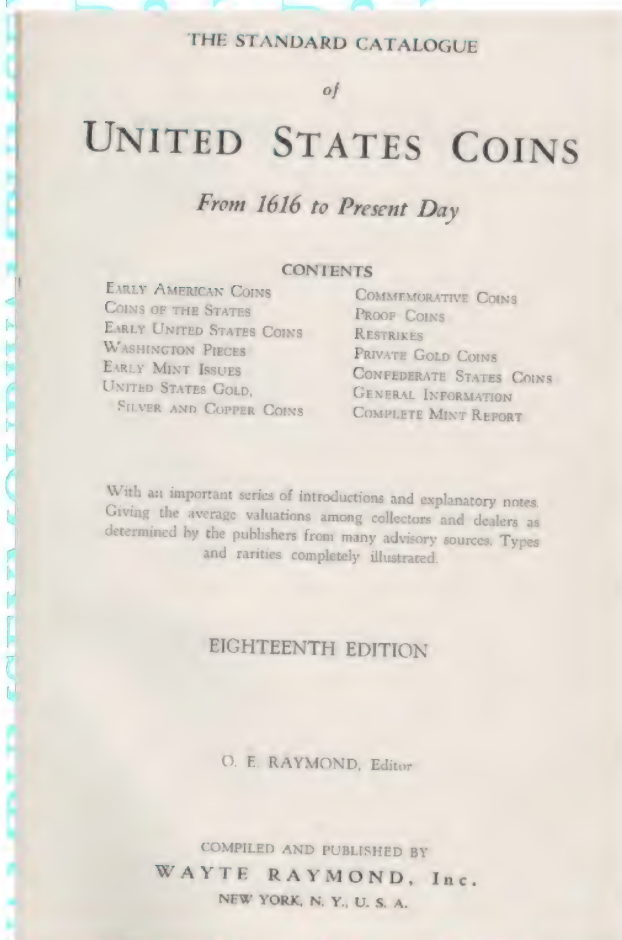








**WB's annotated
Standard Catalog 17th
Ed.**



**Right WB's annot. The Standard Catalogue of United States Coins From
1616 to present day {1957} 18th Ed.**

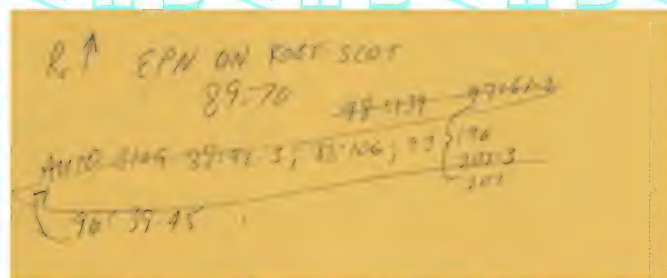
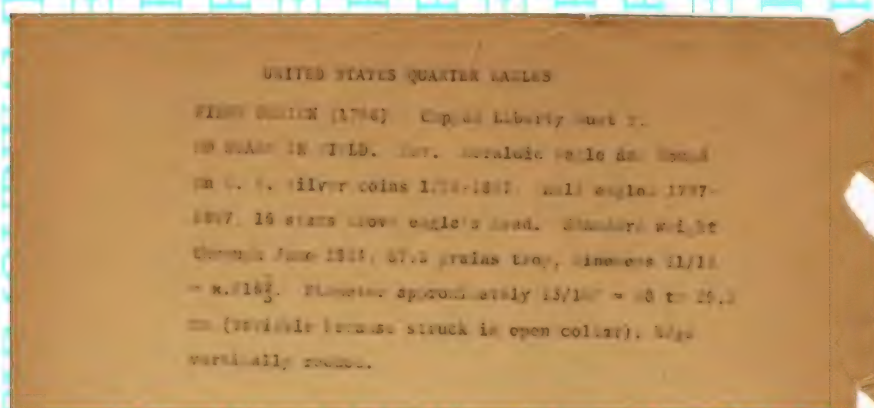
UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

QUARTER EAGLES

Year	Denomination	Price
1794	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1795	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1796	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1797	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1798	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1799	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1800	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1801	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1802	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1803	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1804	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1805	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1806	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1807	1/4 Eagle	125.00
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1810	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1811	1/4 Eagle	125.00
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1890	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1891	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1892	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1893	1/4 Eagle	125.00
1894	1/4 Eagle	125.00
18		

Introduction

This U.S. gold coin doctrine is compiled from a set of manuscripts (ms) written by Walter Breen beginning in 1948-50. There are at least 5 versions, some dates have a dozen additions, corrections and overwrites. There are thousands of photographs; auction catalogs—most written by WB—numerous notebooks (NB), almost 150 accumulated over a 45 year period employed as source material. There will always be more information not included herein, however this is a proper beginning.

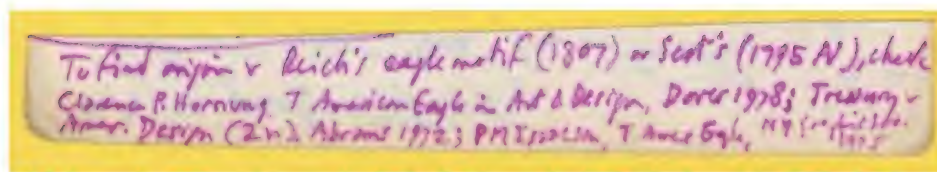


Quarter Eagles authorized by “Statute One” the Mint Act of April 2, 1792. Entered into dies by Scot, possibly the designer also [Hilt {1980} believes possibly with John Smith Gardner’s assistance]. The first precious-metal coin without stars issued for circulation by the USA prior to 1836. The obverse copies the 1795 Half-eagle. The cap is not the Pilleus or Phygian or Liberty cap, which was given to newly freed slaves (and POW’s) to hide the short haircuts maintained on slaves. The founding fathers would be able to look into their fields and inventory their slaves by no head hair, also short hair cuts to prevent/expose runaways. See also Half-Eagle book for more on this

subject. The exact prototype of the obverse is unknown. We are sure Mint Director Moore identified this cap as a high-fashion headdress of the 1790's. The Liberty cap employed the shape of a half eggshell, symbolizing its wearer as a chick emerging from captivity. Its nearest relative is the mobcap in some portraits of Martha Washington. The eagle on the reverse is that of the Great Seal of the U.S., (1782). Scot was the Engraver of the Great Seal as per Alexander Lawson (1773-1846). The quarter eagle was the first to show it (the Half-Eagles with heraldic design were probably struck in 1797 or 1798) [BV verify]. The quarter-eagle's reverse began what was to become the standard of all silver and gold denominations. Of interest is that the reverse of this coin was the first to show 16 star reverse, the extra star was Tennessee's admission to the Union. There is not yet documented proof that presentation sets were given at the admission on June 1, 1796. All denominations of 1796 in presentation (not proof) are known except the Half-Cent and Half-Eagle. This reverse has some differences you should be aware of: Of importance are the eagles claws, the arrows in the right claw or dexter (observers left) and olive in the left or sinister (observers right) are in reverse. This means the arrows of war outrank the olive of peace. It was later changed to the correct sides. Also the shield is different than on other coins. The eagle-and-clouds punch used in 1796-97 has 16 stripes to shield, representing red by eight solid bars (raised on coin), rather than vertically shaded as later.

Not including presentation pieces, the first batches for circulation were from one obverse and two reverse dies. Pursuant to Warrants 75 and 77, the [66] of September 22 and the [897] of December 8 went to the Bank of the United States. This variety, says Hilt are his variety 2-A (four known): arrows extended well beyond N, first s and F very close to wings, indentations between clouds are directly below upright of T(A) and left of curve of O; always with vertical crack from rim through E(S) down through head, shield and tail. Discovered by Harry Bass. The others (Hilt 2-B) have lump at wingtip almost touching F, and the cloud fringes are left of upright of T(A) and well to right of center of O; obverse develops a crack from rim at 9:00. The presentation pieces are thought to have this latter reverse, un-cracked obverse: Mougey:114; Lusk:93 (?).

HB=Harry Bass, ANS-COAC 11/4-5/1989. HB 1-A obverse full bottom curls. Reverse star 1-2 almost [BV verify this word: almost, it may say slant] right; 5 berries. HB 1-B Is the coin ill. in Ency p.485 (ex JWGarrett:732). Obverse lapped, bottom curls weak. Late relapped, bottom curls now strands.



NB 8:21.

Research in the Archives (1951-2) worksheet below.



Misc. ms.:QE 1796-1827. Deviations from good centering, except in the 1802-07 period, are very rarely encountered and they are very slight even on the 1802-07 coins showing them. I have seen no significant irregularities of centering for the 1829-39 coinages.

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUM

61
75
F
1/7

DEALER'S SELL SIGHT UNSEEN

GRADING FCI

RARE COIN INVESTMENT SOLOMON 0905
WAL ST

GRADING

[illegible]

WHS (GAC) did not define MSIS.

Grade range: Very Good to Uncirculated.

Fine: Partial detail to eye, nose, mouth, wing feathers, horizontal shield lines; only outlines of drapery and outermost curls; motto complete but weak.

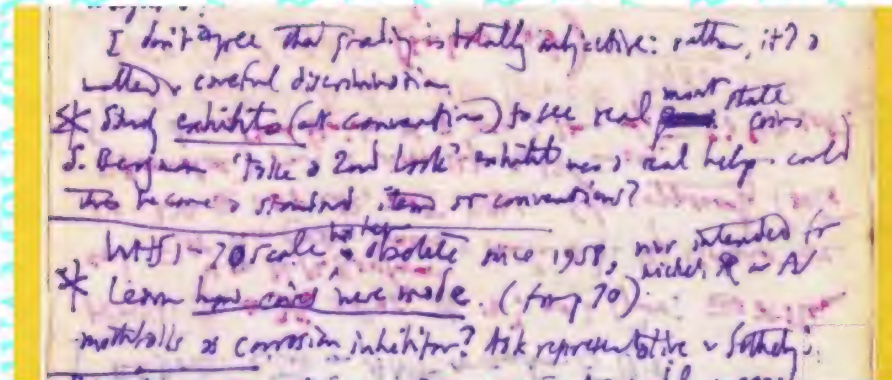
Very Fine: Partial folds of cap and drapery; all major outlines of locks show; partial detail to leaves and tail feathers.

Extremely Fine: Isolated tiny rubbed spots only; generally traces of prooflike surface.

Uncirculated: No trace of wear. [MS-64 & less!] See Numerical Grading in Glossary.

See 1808 for next type. —1829.

Survivors are usually F to EF, they are usually unevenly struck: hair near ear, temple and at lower part of cap; eagles neck, breast feathers, lower part of shield. Border dentils are often weak or incomplete, most of all at lower left and lower right obverse. Later impressions are often weak at E(RTY), possibly a problem with the die alignment as this letter is directly opposite the eagles tail which is another relief area. Genuine uncirculated pieces are prohibitively rare.



I don't agree that grading is totally subjective: rather, it's a rather careful discrimination. ...WHS 1-70 has been obsolete since 1958, never intended for nickel, silver or gold...

NB 17:71.

NB 65:56 I've cat'd cons for > 30 years. T # grade system orig. based on price lvls for 1794 c[ent] later generalized, now standardized!

How coins are made, see gold Bibliography Dies and Coinage WB {1965}.

This study is compiled from WB's existing note database. There is information previously published that is not within the following volumes. The co(i)n industry can be explained herein. Doctrin-ae are never complete due to vast mintages. In addition entropy in a closed system and disorder in concert with the Boltzman equation. Breen's notes are fragmented, assembled herein. He only wrote what he saw; reported means he did not see it & it was not verified. He trusted only his own eyes.

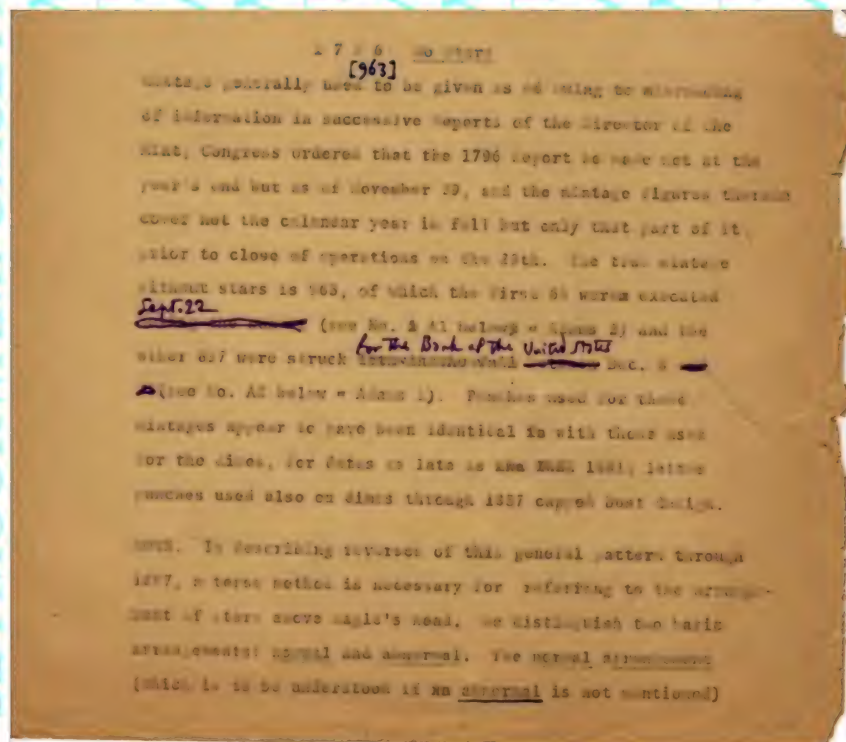
1796

732 = HB 1-B
[66]



Breen 1, Clapp 1.

Warrant 75, Sept. 22. (Four known) arrows extend well beyond N, first S and F very close to wings, indentations between clouds are directly below upright of T(A) and left of curve of O; always with vertical crack from rim through E(S) down through head, shield and tail. Discovered by Harry Bass. H.Bass Hilt 2A see scan below. NB 107:127.



Presentation piece No Stars: Breen 1-A: Only one known. Earliest dies state. Struck probably Sept. 22, 1796 when the denomination was begun, some 66 that day & 897 more coined for Bank of the United States. This piece immediately identifiable by its proof surface & excellent striking characteristics: breast feathers above field sharp, stars & clouds all up, eagles' tail well struck up, curls well up.[See also P bk. ms.].

consists of two rows of stars (roughly over ad dominating clouds) plus one star below neck and one more behind head. For the 15-star reverses of 1796-97, this could be abbreviated 7-7-1-1, meaning that the two upper rows have seven stars apiece; for the 13-star reverses of 1798-1807, this could be abbreviated 6-5-1-1, indicating that the uppermost row has 6 stars and the second row 5; deviations will be explained in the next. When 7-7-1-1 is specified, the stars are numbered as follows: 1st to 7th, clockwise or left to right in top row; 8th to 13th, ditto in second row; 14th below neck, 15th behind head. Similarly for the 13-star reverses. The original arrangement has the stars placed not in regular rows but in intersecting straight lines forming diamond patterns. This is found in 18 1796-1807 and derives from various dies, ^{either} ~~2-1-1-1~~ ^{and half eagle} dollar reverses.

81 Not in B18 Breen
Adm. 2
Not in Clap.
Not in Newcomer

Obv. No stars. Date about in a straight line, 7's a little closer at tops than other digits, 6 leaning right, 6 partly buried in S; 1 low, leaning to right; 2's spread apart. (These details prove that the 13th Stars type was not made by altering this die.)

Rev. Mural, 7-7-1-1, 4 barriers. Differs from the other die marked with the 10 stars obverse in the following particulars: (1) Hold the coin so that U of UNITED is upright, and the bunch of arrows extends well beyond it, about to ^{point} below left upright of I. 4 In the other reverse, arrows do not even extend ^{beyond} ^{upright} right upright of U. (2) Top of first 7 in STATES is much less than its own width away from wing. In the other reverse, 7 is notably farther from wing.

Presentation pieces With Stars: Three seen in presentation piece form. One of these, Earl:2496; another went in the M.I. Cohen sale 1875, & may or may not be among the 3 seen by Breen. Cf. Maris:12 [1886]; Winter sale (1974), \$33,000.. The production run began on Jan. 14, 1797, but the presentation pieces may have been made in Dec. 1796. Occasion, stars added.

(3) Top of 2 extremely close to edge - more so than in any other die of the period. (4) Stars 11-12-13 form a straight line, with the 12th much closer to head than 11th. (5) A's are apparently larger than in the other reverse - particularly noticeable in the two A's of AMERICA. (6) ~~xx~~ Space between two clouds is directly below upright of first T in STATES (hold coin so that this T is vertical). In the other die, the space is to left of the upright. (7) when O ~~xxxx~~ is held vertically, the space between two clouds is under its left curve; on the other die, this space or indentation will be well to right of center of O; on comparison, this first die has O's much farther apart than the other, but this is harder to judge without having good photographs of both reverses.

Die states. Rev. Carl's normal - struck before die was slipped, but after a tiny crack had begun to develop from rim horizontally about 9 o'clock.

Rev. Spies Perfect or with light ~~xxxx~~ "bisecting" crack vertically from rim through S of STATES down through eagle's head, shield, to tail. ^{4-1/2 stars, look at}

Borderline
/R-S. Table 358, (fine) two others seen in recent years, at least one with the break, in the usual choice preservation for this date. It is not known if these struck for presentation on the occasion of admission of Tennessee were from these dies. It is tempting to speculate that this variety constituted the 66 coins struck earlier in the year, and that coinage was interrupted because the reverse die broke severely enough to require its discard and no successor was yet ready. ^{JC 71: f/vf, faint on lower left RT, 18.12.18}
^{Wh AM, looks much like the 66110. Is it from 358?}



Obv. Same die as last, no stars.

Rev. Similar. See description of A1 reverse; bunch of arrows extends only to right serif of H, not beyond it; S and Y farther from wing though the F is close, ^{no loop at wing tip ~~more~~ heavily touched by} no stars in second row form a straight line, and 12th is much farther from eagle's head than 11th as usual; spaces of indentations between clouds left of upright of T and right of center of O.

~~See page 10~~

1796. Obv. Small break horizontally at 9:00, varying from short and light to long and heavy, but none seen yet with it extending into cap or hair. Later impressions ~~sometimes~~ ^{the} show that die was lapped; lowest curl is now fragmentary: Melick 1997.

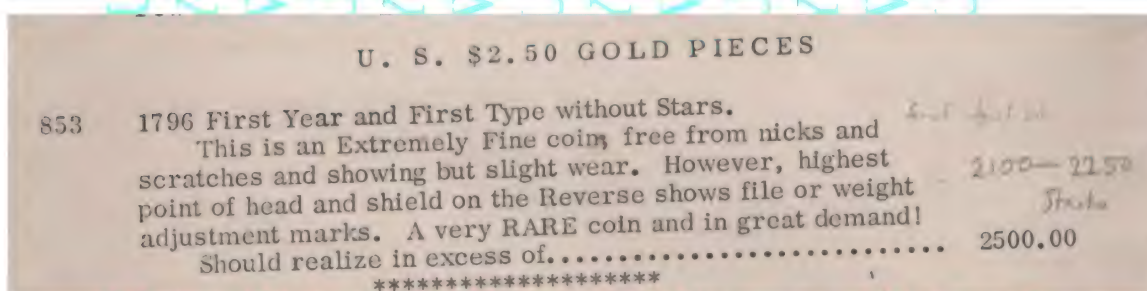
^{Low}
~~920~~

1796. Generally found from Fine-VF to AB, not often three with any claim to mint state. There are more 2M of these than one would expect to find with only 837 minted (assuming that the other 80 were in fact A1's); this reflects the practice of saving specimens as the first of their kind. However, specimens of this and later years through 1807 are often misgraded in either direction, because the eagle's breast feathers above shield--the highest relief area of reverse--comes directly opposite central area of Ms. Liberty's curls, either or both these areas will seldom be found well struck up. Either this weakness is mistaken for wear and the coin is downgraded, or it is identified as weak striking and other areas of actual wear are attributed to the same cause so that the coin is upgraded. ^{Whatever its grade,} the 1796 is usually exaggerated in rarity claims whenever it appears at auction, usually because of the mint reports. I would estimate the surviving population without stars at between 15 and 20.

[897] Warrant 77 Dec. 8.

Lump at wingtip almost touching F, the cloud indentations are left of upright of T(A) and well to right of center of O; obverse develops a crack from rim at 9:00. Dunham, Eliasberg:79, EF, \$26,000.

Real presentation pieces are thought to have this later reverse, uncracked obverse: Mougey:1144; Lusk:93 (?).



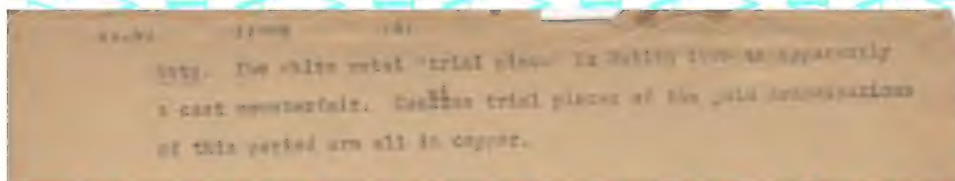
See Catalogs below. Breen annotation.

Garrett:732, AU, \$125,000., Ed Hipps;

Dunham, Eliasberg:79, EF \$26,400.; EF J.W.Scott, Holden, N:1931.

Three in S.I.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:984 "[...]with out stars[...]Heraldic[...]about Uncirculated[...]Reverse almost a proof[...]From the Curtis Sale[...]"] \$225.00.

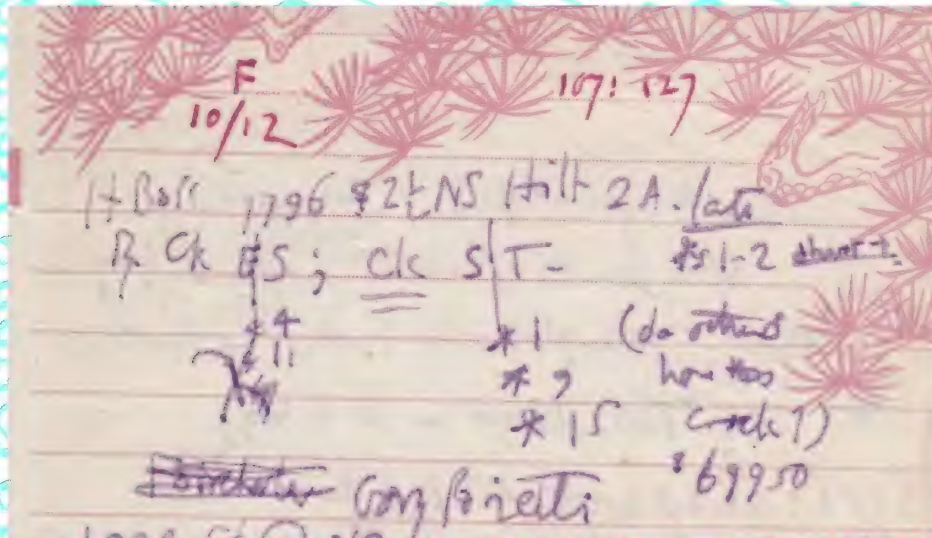


Note: The white metal "trial piece" in Melish:1099 is apparently a cast counterfeit. Genuine trial pieces of gold denominations of this period are all in copper.

JCM#311, 10/18/33: "[...]Without stars. Brilliant uncirculated[...]". \$250.00. *Illustrated*. W. Raymond's copy [catalogued by WR(bidder #311)], to WB.

See important catalogs below for: Wayte Raymond's copy J.C. Morgenthau & Co., 278th sale, lot 213, [...]without stars..EF, \$50.00; lot 214, [...]with stars[...]light scratch on obverse below bust[...]\$65.00.

NB 107:127 No Stars Late.



BMM 3/23/48:3484 “[...]with out stars[...]short light nick on lower obverse and a die nick below bust[...].” \$210.00. BMM descriptions to be taken with caution. BMM A. Carter 10/55:84, ‘VF’.

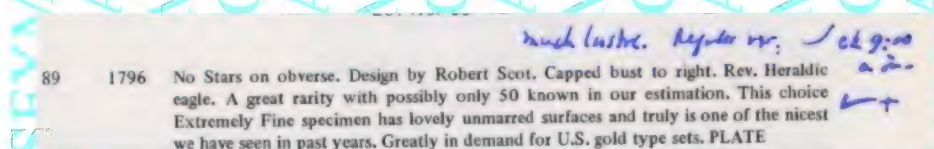
Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Annotations WB.**

See original manuscript in Bibliography below. For cautious use of E.H. Adams NB's. Other die markers.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1485.

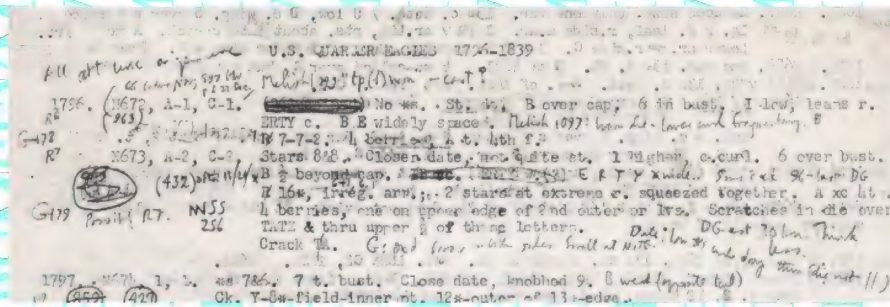
See Catalogues below: CSNA 10/1960:853 for WB's annotated copy and remarks.

WB misc.: “‘au' stk w/ foreign object blw chin into field”. [no variety noted]

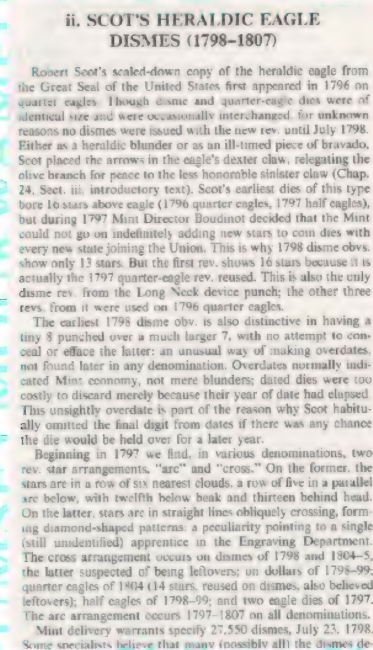


WB's annotated K 1/75:89 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



Above B&W copy is superior to original color.



Disme rev. employed.

WB's annot. copy Ency. above for historical purposes only. See 1804 14* below.

1796 With Stars

Stars 8 + 8. [432]

HB 1-A. Breen 2, C-2.

Garrett:733. Hilt 1-C.



SECOND ISSUE (1796-1807): As preceding, but obv. with stars at borders. In 1796 only we find the sixteen stars, arranged 8 + 8. It became quickly apparent that the Mint could no longer continue to add a new star for each state, and so in 1797 and later years through 1807 these coin dies bear only the original 13. There are three distinct arrangements, apparently not due to error:

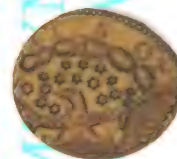
(1) 7 + 6 (i.e. 7 left, 6 right). 1797, 1803, 1806/5, 1807.
 (2) 6 + 7. Found only on 1798, both sides.
 (3) 6 + 5. 1802, 1804, 1806/4.

Reverses are as preceding, but again beginning in 1798 there are only thirteen stars above eagle.

1796 With Stars
 [432], Jan. 14, 1797]

Obv. Stars 8 + 8. Not altered from the No Stars die. E R T V are widely spaced, date much more closely spaced and well curved, the 1 higher, and all of 6 visible though its top is punched in over drapery.

Rev. Irregular arrangement of stars--not abnormal, and evidently intended as normal but mismade: 7-6-1-3 with the two extras crowded in at extreme right, one partly buried in wing, two other directly above it. One of the 4 berries is partly merged in upper edge of a leaf. A does not quite touch 4th feather. Heavy die



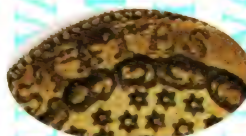
Clapp, Eliasberg:80, AU, \$26,400.



Note letter positions.



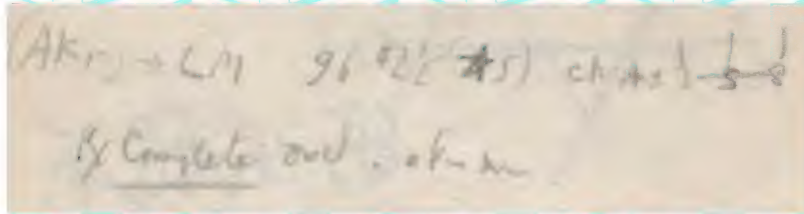
file marks through TATE (upper halves and above letters).
 Die states. At first perfect. Sometimes normally struck, sometimes
 with dies not in parallel planes, producing weakness at date,
 drapery, lower curls and lower left stars. Later, fine die
 cracks develop through date: bases of 17, middle of 796; and a
 crack through all stars at right. ^{all stars worn by} Still later (Gaskill 179),
 heavy clash marks near borders on both sides, and reverse die
 is giving way at NITE, producing a gbulge on the coin.
 A-6, high--probably should be called borderline 2-7. These or four or
 five
 from brilliant mint state pieces, prooflike. Was 18 (possibly
 1812, possibly 1813).
 from 1812, possibly 1813, and 12 (1816) appear to qualify
 as true presentation pieces, struck from brilliantly polished
 dies on brilliantly polished blanks, carefully centered, possibly
 even given an extra blow as with true proofs to bring out full
 design details, and caught in a chamber or opening from the press
 to avoid abrasion. The occasion is likely to have been the new
 type. ¹⁸¹² These known range from Fine to A+, most commonly A or
 better.



 854 1796 Second Variety - 16 Stars on Obverse. Very Fine. A ✓ 1600-1650
 well struck specimen showing very little wear. Coin has a
 very fine evenly pitted surface. Excessively RARE! Should
 realize 2000.00

CSNA 10/1960:854 above.

NB:WBV#6 p. 4 See Artryfact below. Early cracked die.



See Catalogs below. Breen annotation.

Judd 3rd: Quarter Eagle. Obverse: Regular die with stars, white metal. (2) White metal 69.9 grains, probably J.L. Mickley in 1860's, rusty dies.

Bullion Journal A page 72: 1 QE reserved for assay. 47: Nov. 19, 1796. '[...]Rec'd[...]31 July to 30 Sept. 1796[...].'

Possibly five proof-like presentation strikings survive; Winter:495, \$33,000 (1974); Auction 84:1365, \$74,250.

Probably fewer than 30 business strikes survive.

The die variety of Warrant 82 of Feb. 28, 1797 of 98 pieces remains impossible to prove *actio* Breen, see Hilt.

Most survivors are VF to EF. Caution: near mint state proof-like examples do not show exceptional details of the presentation strikings.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:985 "[...]with stars[...]obverse is Very Fine[...]Reverse is Extremely Fine[...]. This is the Benton specimen[...]." \$200.00.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:85 no grade.

See original ms. in Bibliography below for cautious use of E.H. Adams NB's and additional die markers.

2411 1796. Quarter-eagle, or two dollars and a half. Head of Liberty wearing a cap; above, LIBERTY; beneath, 1796; eight stars before the bust, and eight behind it. Rev. Heraldic eagle; about his head sixteen stars; above, clouds, etc. Some of the drift-marks in the planchet on obv., which is slightly weak; otherwise, extremely fine, with proof surface. Excessively rare. See plate. First year of this value.

SH& H Chapman Bushnell Estate 6/1882:2411 \$32.00.

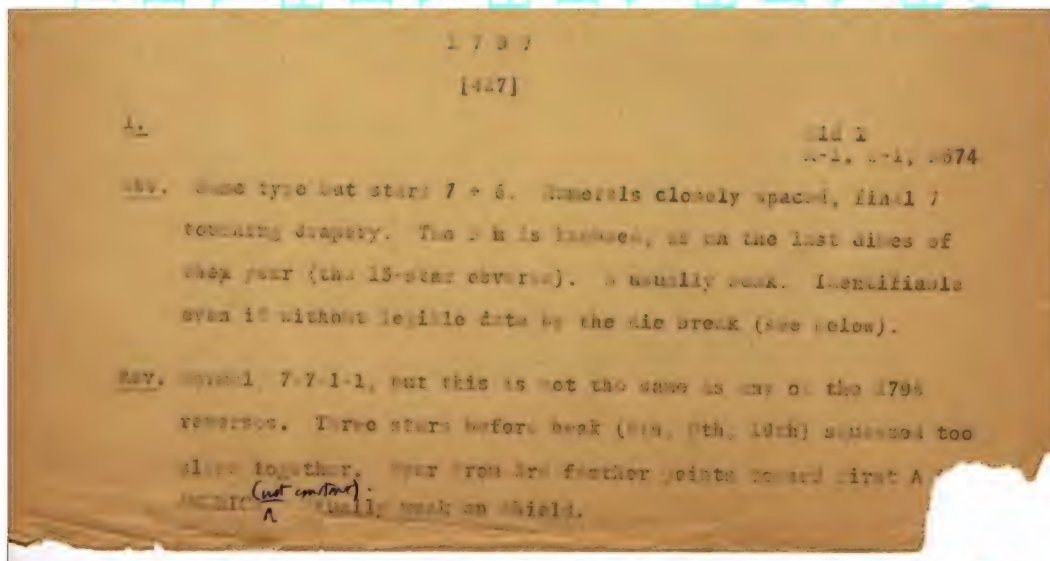
1797

Stars 7 + 6. As per Boudinot's order. Rev. must have been made in 1796, as it shows 16 stars randomly scattered above head.

[427]

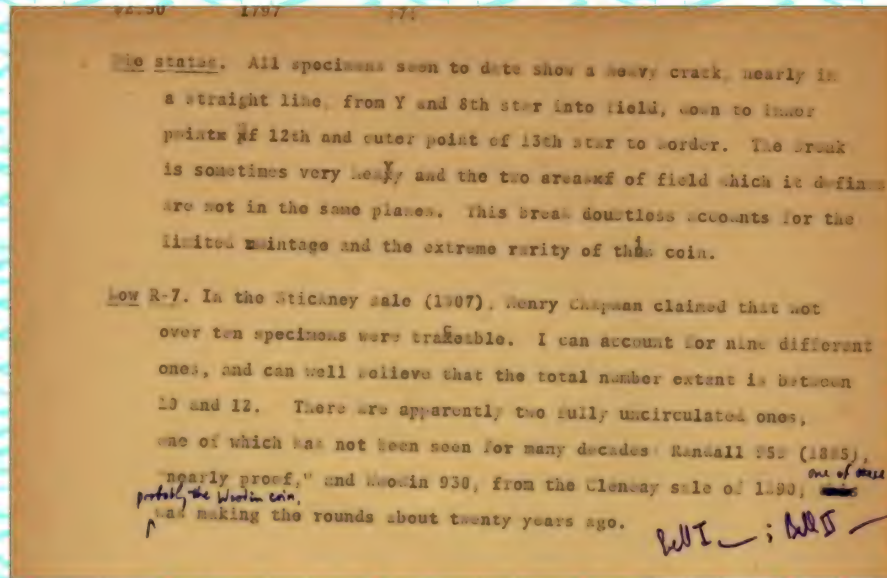


Ill., notable all have die crack Y in LIBERTY star 8, through field to 12th and 13th stars to border.



Ill. is Breen 1, C-1

Mintage figures from archives: Feb. 28 [98], March 14 [128], June 29, 1797 [201].



Hilt 5-D. Reverse reused on 1798/7 disme.

Usually in VF; Spedding, Clapp Eliasberg:81, EF, \$12,100; Auction 80:886, AU, \$34,000. Bell II:77, "Gem Unc." (not seen by Breen) and 1970 ANA:1424, said to be proof-like, may be the finest. Dupont, Lilly, S.I.; Mint, S.I. J.W.Garrett:737 is HB 1-A.

Hilt thinks the [585] between 3/14/1797 and 1/11/1798 bore this date. Warrants 83, 93, and 102.

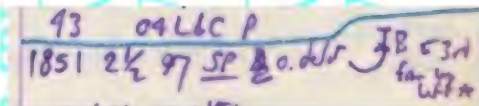
Hilt thinks the first were dated 1796, the other two deliveries plus [256] of Jan. 11, 1798, were all the 1797's.

Possibly 20 survive, mostly VF; prohibitively rare in mint state. Concerning the numerous coins called AU in auction records, these possibly represent 4 specimens playing 'Musical Chairs' for many decades; 2 or 3 others are optimistically graded. One certain pedigree:

J.J.Mickley, W.E.Woodward. H.P.Newlin, Garrett, 'AU'.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1851 Semi-Prooflike Obv. defect bases IB to 3rd

far top left star. See Artytfact. Misc. AV notes p.12. BMM A.Carter 10/55:86 'Semi-proof.'



“H.R. Lee” S 10/47:986 “[...]Strictly very fine[...].” \$240.00.
 JCM#311, 10/18/33:141 “Usual obverse die break. Extremely fine. A very great rarity and the first time offered in many years. *Illustrated.*” \$400.00.
 See Catalogues below S Smith 5/55:1486.
 Compare Harry Bass Collection below. = ? WB.
 Numismatic Gallery 1/2/1953 to Norweb; B-1 ‘VF’.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

1797 1, L. as 746. 7 t. bust. Close date, knobbed S. B. west (yields 11)
 Ck. Y-0a-field-inner pt. 12a-outer of 13-edge.
 With berries. 7-7-20. A cdt; spur from 3rd feather points to A.
 Row of 3 as before back in style line are such for c., in 1797 not.

B&W copy above is superior in quality to color original.

Disme rev. employed.

WB's annot. copy Ency. right for historical purposes only. See 1804 14 * below.

ii. SCOT'S HERALDIC EAGLE DISMES (1798-1807)

Robert Scot's scaled-down copy of the heraldic eagle from the Great Seal of the United States first appeared in 1796 on quarter eagles. Though dime and quarter-eagle dies were of identical size and were occasionally interchanged, for unknown reasons no dimes were issued with the new rev. until July 1798. Either as a heraldic blunder or as an ill-timed piece of bravado, Scot placed the arrows in the eagle's dexter claw, relegating the olive branch for peace to the less honorable sinister claw (Chap. 24, Sect. iii, introductory text). Scot's earliest dies of this type bore 18 stars above eagle (1796 quarter eagles, 1797 half eagles), but during 1797 Mint Director Boudinot decided that the Mint could not go on indefinitely adding new stars to coin dies with every new state joining the Union. This is why 1798 dime obvs. show only 13 stars. But the first rev. shows 16 stars because it is actually the 1797 quarter-eagle rev. reused. This is also the only dime rev. from the Long Nock device punch; the other three revs. from it were used on 1796 quarter eagles.

The earliest 1798 dime obv. is also distinctive in having a tiny 8 punched over a much larger 7, with no attempt to conceal or efface the latter; an unusual way of making overdates, not found later in any denomination. Overdates normally indicated Mint economy, not mere blunders; dated dies were too costly to discard merely because their year of date had elapsed. This oversight overdate is part of the reason why Scot habitually omitted the first digit from dates if there was any chance the die would be held over for a later year.

Beginning in 1797 we find, in various denominations, two rev. star arrangements, "arc" and "cross." On the former, the stars are in a row of six nearest clouds, a row of five in a parallel arc below, with twelfth below head and thirteenth behind head. On the latter, stars are in straight lines obliquely crossing, forming diamond-shaped patterns; a peculiarity pointing to a single (still unidentified) apprentice in the Engraving Department. The cross arrangement occurs on dimes of 1798 and 1804-5, the latter suspected of being leftovers; on dollars of 1799-99, quarter eagles of 1804 (14 stars, reused on dimes, also believed leftovers), half eagles of 1798-99; and two eagle dies of 1797. The arc arrangement occurs 1797-1807 on all denominations.

Mint delivery warrants specify 27,550 dimes, July 23, 1798. Some specialists believe that many (possibly all) the dimes do

1798



1798
[Total 1,094 both varieties]
Stars 6 + 7 on both varieties

1. Close date, four berries. old 1
A-1, C-1, W-475

Obv. Date closely spaced, small 8 (found in the overdate dies) free of drapery, 7th star very close to Y.

Unique variant of normal arrangement:
Rev. WASHINGTON THIRTEEN stars above eagle, 6-6-1-1, these stars looking too large and squeezed together. The lack of a beak star and the equal numbers of stars in two upper rows cannot be found duplicated in any other die of any denomination. Four berries, as on preceding years, one impacted on a leaf point, 8 away from wing. A touches 3rd and 4th feathers. Bunch of arrows extends well to right of center of S. Leaf point near extreme right foot of I.

Close date, 4 berries. HB 1-A; Hilt 4-B. Wetmore:99, Brand I:86, almost EF, \$4,000; Mint, S.I. 4.375 gms. Melish:1102, Unc., has "cud" rim break obliterating most of 1, first 3 stars, and part of fourth: "fatal break" ex Leo A. Young, 1959 ANA:956, Bell II:78 (1963) a proof-like presentation piece. In the 1950's possibly 7 or 8 continually showed up at auctions and in dealers stocks at major conventions. Four are Unc., including "Melish":1102. In those years the repeated sightings of these same few coins gave the date briefly the reputation for being overrated in rarity, and this variety was

believed the commoner of the two. in the late 1980's these coins have mysteriously vanished and Breen could not find even a usable photograph! The other variety, with wider date and 5 berries was originally believed of the highest rarity, as for many years only 4 were known (see 1963 ms. below), and only one of these qualified as Unc. Since the late 1960's, others have shown up in lower grades. Of the 8 to 10 with five berries, only 3 or 4 qualify as Unc.[See also P bk. ms.].

Die states. Usually, perfect dies. A single specimen known (Jelish 1183) with an immense rim break or "cut", obliterating 1 in date, first three stars and part of the fourth--a piece of the die must have fallen out, rendering it immediately useless. "Fatal break." On reverse of this coin, ED ST are too weakly struck to be readable, owing to the excessive amount of metal taken up by the break. Oddly, this piece is uncirculated--evidently saved at the time as a curiosity, rather than being thrown into circulation or into the melting pot.

R-6. [614] Somewhat rarer than the 1796 No Stars, less rare than the 1796 With Stars, the 1797, or the variety to follow. A single prooflike presentation piece is reported (Donnie Carraway saw it in possession of Leo A. Young, well known Oakland, Cal. dealer, about 1959 ^{probably later than 1798}); this is sharply enough struck to raise the question of true proof status, though it has a tiny planchet defect. There are at least four other unc. examples around, including the unique "Fatal Break" piece.

Mint reports specify 480 coined in 1798, but no specimen has ever been reported bearing this date. The rare variety to follow is believed to constitute the 1799 mintage, from dies completed ~~unlike~~ before the mint had to close down for the annual yellow fever epidemic, but put into use only later and reported during the calendar year 1799.

2. Wide date, five berries.

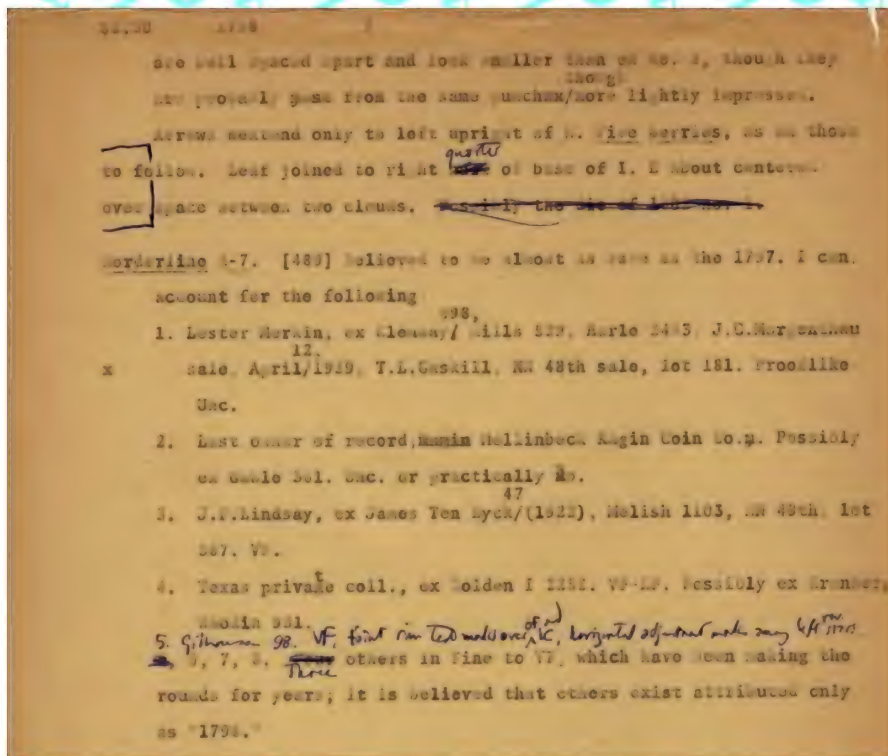
Old 2
A-2, C-2, B-676

Obv. Wide date, same small 8 touching drapery; 9 very close to drapery. Y about its own width away from adjacent star.

Rev. Normal arrangement, 6-5-1-1 as on most to follow; these stars



Wide date, 5 berries. Breen 2, HB 2-B, C-2; Hilt 3-I, who identifies these as the [358] struck May-Aug. 1798. Rev. of 1798-1800 dimes with narrow A's. Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg:82, AU, \$8,250. Anderson DuPont, Lilly, S.I. JCM 6/13/1936. Adjustment marks center rev..



These [480] delivered 12/28/1799 has long been believed to comprise the Five Berries coins; none with date 1799 has ever been rumored. Farouk:296: '[...]tiny flake or nick on obv. to r. of head & pin-point nicks at l. obv. [...]brilliant semi-proof[...]' Use BMM's descriptions with caution. PCA III "Beck" 2/14/77:92 Plate, \$575.00, "Fine-45". "[...]used for jewelry[...]" Trace of solder stain on edge where loop removed. Field appears

burnished, many tiny nicks on surface[...]" See Bibliography: Catalogues of Auctions.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:987 "[...]Extremely fine[...]Proof like surface[...]" \$125.00.

JCM#311, 10/18/33:142 VF. \$125.00.

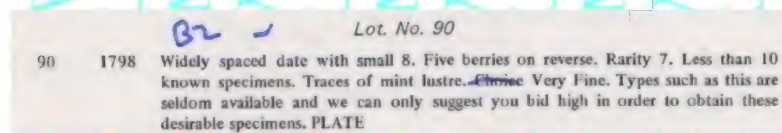
BMM A.Carter 10/55:87 'Practically uncirculated.'

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

KS 4/3-4/59:2599 "[...]five berries[...]Lustrous almost extremely fine. [...]Plate". WB's writing illegible.

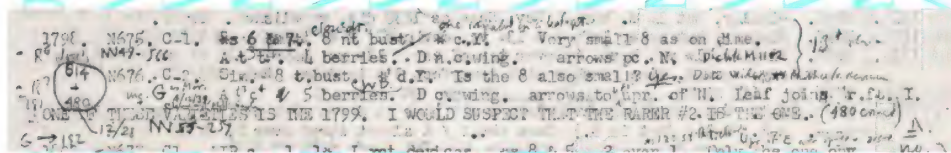
See original ms. in Bibliography below for Adams numbers; additional die markers.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1487.



WB's annot. K 1/75:90 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



The above B&W scan is superior to the color scan.

RARE 1798 BRILLIANT PROOF QUARTER EAGLE

1798
467
7/20/11
150-970
Proof 17
900.00

956. 1798 \$2.50 GOLD QUARTER EAGLE IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A BEAUTIFUL GENUINE BRILL. PROOF ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE BOOKS LISTS PROOF GOLD THIS EARLY - ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE A CHOICE EARLY STRIKE, IT WILL MATCH ANY PROOF SET-VALUED BY OWNER AT A MINIMUM OF \$700 - THIS CHOICE COIN SHOULD REALIZE OVER (Plate)

957. \$5.00 Gold 1834 Half Eagle - Crosslet 4 -

467
P. 1011
65-970
900.00

650-970
Dwight SP

1802

Stars 8 + 5.



1802

[11,612 + 423 in 1803 = 3,035]

The coins reported in 1803 almost certainly bore date 1802. No 1803-dated quarter eagles have ever been reported in gold, and those in brass reported by Adams-Woodin (U.S. Pattern, Trial and Experimental pieces, 1913 and later reprints, have ^{without exception} proved to be gambling tokens manufactured by Kettle of London, usually but not always bearing the name KETTLE near border right of date. As the Kettle pieces also exist in silver and may come gilt without the name showing, conceivably a ^{novice} might be deceived.

Most survivors are VF to EF.

Mintage figure includes [423] coined in 1803 from 1802 dated dies.

III. is reverse 2.



\$2.50 1802

:11:

2.

Old 2

A-3, C-3, N-679.

Obv. 1

Rev. Quickly identified by leaf free of I, though it is very close to Upper and ~~lowest~~ outside berries free in field, latter right tip. ~~Upper and lowest outside berries free in field, latter right tip.~~ Below r. foot of final A (hold coin so that this A is upright). Both prongs of beak run into star. variety 1. Thirteenth star directly below 10th, as on ~~Arrows~~ Arrows to left side of upright of N; lowest outer leaf a "ghost"; RI nearly touch.

R-7. ~~Wilham~~ Wilham 63; Bell II 79 (VF); FCI ex Dr. Judd--"Ill. Hist." 56. By far the rarest variety of the year.

3

Old 3

A-1, CA-2, N-677.

Obv. 1.

Rev. Leaf firmly joins r. half of xbase of I; all berries clear of leaves; A free of wing and well away from 4th feather; 13th star almost touches neck; arrows extend beyond left upright of N.

R-5. low, possibly high R-4. Least rare variety of the year. WGC 83, Gas-Guidebook. kill--NN 48th, lot 182; NN 49th, lot 568; Melish 1104; ill. SC, /

4.

Old 4

Not in A, C, or N

Obv. 1.

Rev. First star plainly double punched, showing 9 points--originally too high, too far r., then corrected. A touches 3rd and 4th feathers; 13th star well away from neck; top four berries just touch leaves; leaf joins r. base of I; die scratch from upper left corner of shield to ribbon; die scratch (?) or crack (?) from r. wingtip to border. Arrows do not extend beyond left upright of N. The preceding criteria suffice to ~~avoid~~ avoid confusing this variety with any of the first three.

\$2.50 1802 112.

A-3, but rarer than no. 3. This was known to Adams but confused by him with his first two numbers (our nos. 1 and 3). Well known examples include Gaskill's, lot 153 of AN 48th sale, "Cicero" 258, Davis-Graves 666.

It is still not definitely known if any of the reverses of this year are identical to dime reverses of 1802-03. No. 4 is very close to reverse of the 1802 dime (cf. lot 64, Berlin sale, April 1, 1866), and/or rev. A of 1803 dime. Should it prove to be identical to any of these, we may assume that the 425 quarter eagles minted in 1803 from 1802 dies included some part of the variety No. 4.



III. right is reverse 3.

Ex AKosoff: nd (1802-1807?) 62: 91
 +2 L. w. unif. o. to 8+5. Part
 die. ~~1802~~ 1802, date not found
 2 strikes go from 3rd to 1st R above T
 8th vs cap. Only 1 of one date shown

NB 62:9 below. Uniface. Ex Kosoff.

HB 1-A Rev. leaf free. I.

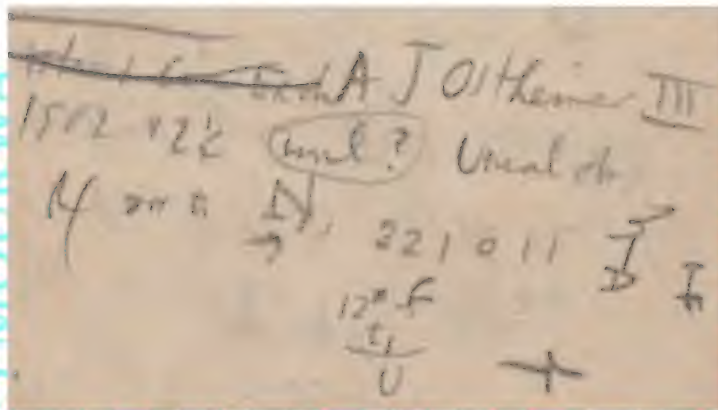
1-B Rev. spike, shield to wing.

1-C

1-D Rev. star 1 double punched.

NB:WBV#13p.1 Artyfact below.

BMM 3/23/48:3485, \$60.00. BMM A. Carter 10/55:88 'AU.'

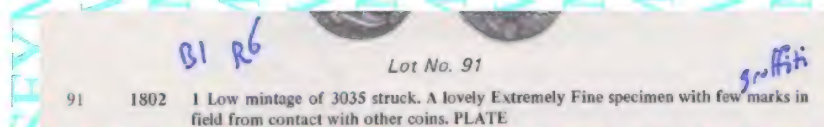


KS 4/3-4/59:2600 "1802 over 1. Almost Very Fine. [...]"

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

See original ms. in Bibliography below for information on Adams numbers and additional die markers.

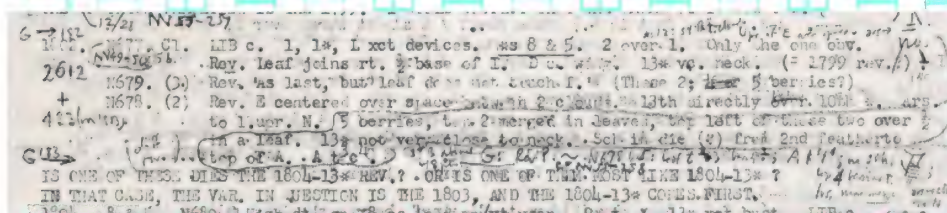
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1488.



WB's annot. K 1/75:91 above.

See Bibliography below for WB's copy P.T.A. Breen 2 described varieties B-1 lot 559 'EF/VF'; B-4 lot 560 'EF/VF'.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

1803

[0]

The gaming tokens/counters looking similar to U.S. coins were made in Birmingham England by Kettle & Son's were brass and silver. Not a U.S. Mint issue. Some are known with and without the name Kettle to the right of date.



Ill. is Judd without KETTLE removed from right side of date. From Breen's Judd 3rd.

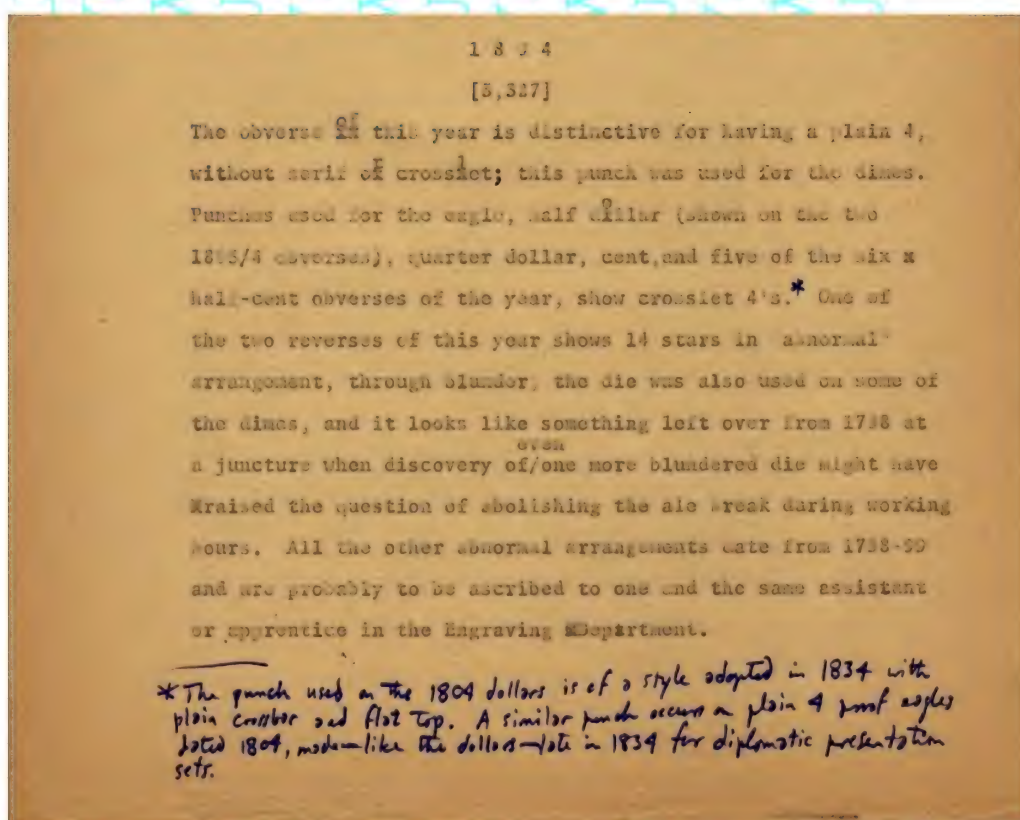
Because annual Director's Reports showed a delivery of 423 quarter eagles for 1803, for long this date was believed to exist as a rarity, though nobody ever managed to find a genuine mint specimen. Adams-Woodin {1913} managed to compound the confusion by listing alleged copper trial pieces from regular dies of this date, and specifying that these should not be confused with the brass British gambling counters of vaguely similar design with KETTLE right of date.

1804

14 Star [2,324+]

13 Star [1,003-]

III. 14 star reverse, EF..



III. 14 star.

EYMO
URWA
IPUMS
EYMO
URWA
IPUMS
EYMO
URWA
IPUMS
EYMO
URWA
IPUMS
EYMO

13:

1.

1 PLO

A 1, C 1, N 685.

small u

LOS, 1-1-3,

7-8-2-4,

R-5. /Popular type coin; its rarity has been exaggerated: there were three in the Nummoy collection. Found in all grades. At least one is recorded in full mint state: Woodin 935.

2.

Cl. 2

A-2, C-2, N-681.

Gov. 1.

[1,003]

R-7, 122. ⁽¹⁾ Very seldom seen in any grade, and none in mint state. I can trace the following: (1) Baskill, RM 48th, lot 184 / "Cicero" (18 scratched into field), 258, Newmanen othezwawathunon (5) Newmaner 2352 / (4) Malcolm Jackson 55 (Pine), (5) Marie 2351. ⁽⁶⁾ I have heard of three others.



Ill. is Breen 14 star reverse Breen 1, C-1. Dime reverse (No. 102) leftover from 1798 (98-99). "Blundered die."

Rev. of 14 stars: "Abnormal" arrangement, aka "cross" arrangement. Hilt 7-F, HB 1-B later crack @ 4. Auction 82:900, Unc., \$15,000; BMM 1922 Ten Eyck:49, NN:185; N:1936 Au+. Elder 5/14/1909 to Holden. Survivors in all grades.

Less rare than 13 stars, stars in "arc" arrangement. Three times as many as 13 stars.

P.T.A. Breen 2 6/75:561 14 stars '+/-EF'.

Rev. of 13 stars: HB 1-A, perfect Obv.. Possibly 9 survive, none above EF. Usually in low grades. Charlotte:1672 (S 3/17/1979), EF, \$20,000; Carter:533, EF \$27,500, M. Brownlee.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:989 "[...]Skillfully plugged above cap[...]Very Fine[...]" \$30.00.

ms. FCI Descriptions of New Varieties {1977}(1/1976-4/77): 1804 Breen 1.

Rev. 14 stars. EF, rev. sharper than obv., many adjustment marks. From Henry Chapman, many years ago. B0008.

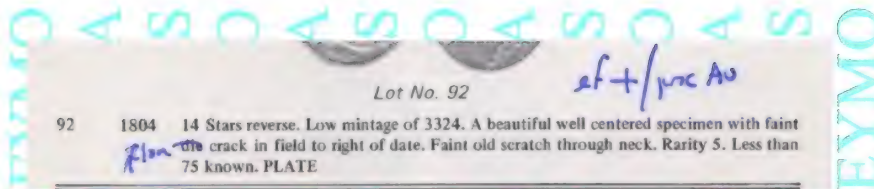
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

See original WB ms. in Bibliography below for additional die markers described.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:89 'EF' no star count.

Stack 4/55:803 Reads: "803 1804 Faint edge dent. Extremely Fine." WB annot.: Circle lot #; question mark and double underline Faint; redact Ex[...]e adds vf to[...]; adds 14* 120 not us; OOWL OTRL [buyer]; to StCat VF + 25%.

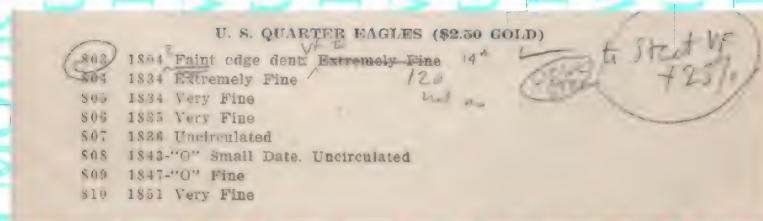
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1489.



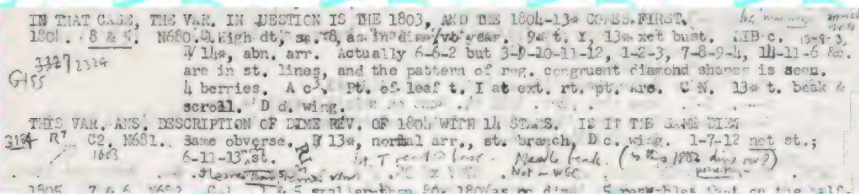
WB's annot K 1/75:92 above.

For Auc '85 see Bibliography below: NB 56:164-5.

WB's annotated Stack's 4/1955:803 below.



Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

Elder 10/1908:36 Liberty head, 13 stars. Rev. Heraldic eagle. Very fine. Rare.

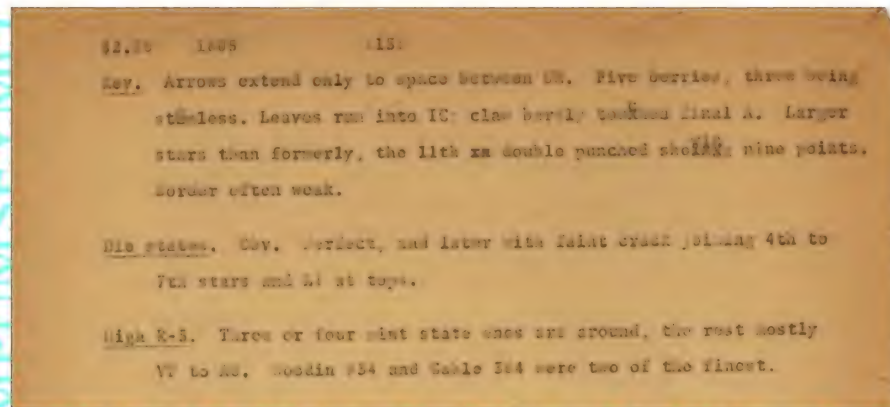
Plate. \$14.50 John.

1805



Color obv. ill. is W.Elliot Woodward, January 23, 1883. Note mark above cap. This and all Vogel, Wampum ill's. are from W.Breen's archives of 1,000's of sepia, b&w, color photos.

1805
1805
[1.751]
For unknown reasons, the engravers reverted to the 7 + 8 star arrangement on the single obverse of this year. Only the one variety known. The dies were still usable at the end of the year and the reverse was used for all 1806-07 coins; the obv. was later annealed and altered at the mint to 1806/05. Alteration of a die which had already been in use was an extremely rare practice at the mint, most overdates being alterations of previously unused dies. I can at the moment recall only the following instances:
(1) Quarter dollar, 1805, Browning #4, reused as 1806/5.
(2) Half dollar, 1805, overton 125, reused as 1806/5 ov. 184.
(3) The quarter eagle of 1805 here being considered.
In addition, ¹⁸⁰¹cent reverse ~~1801~~ A (a fourth 1/800 blander ⁱⁿ the same year) was altered by correcting the fraction to read 1/100, becoming 1805 reverse G, ^{showing 1 over} first 5 in fraction. This last is almost certainly from the same cast as was cited for the 1804 Fourteen Stars; the other three, all of 1805-06, are almost certainly for reasons of economy and/or temporary unavailability of new die blanks.
1 Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-682
Fig. 1. Numeral punches as on the dime, the 5 being smaller and most resembles that found on the rare "small 5, stems" obv. of the half cent. The zero is ~~also~~ larger than on the 1804 this larger punch, apparently adopted for an 1804 die not used in that year, continues through 1807. Spur from border runs almost into 9th star.



Ill. is Breen 1, C-1.

Dies were evidently from tougher steel, as they lasted longer than any earlier ones. Other overdates are normally from dies not earlier used and probably not given initial hardening with their earlier dates; reuse of 1805 dies after overdating testifies to Scot's running out of die steel.

Three in S.I.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:90 'F'.

Repunched rev. star 11 is HB 1-A.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:990 "[...]Edge somewhat bruised below date[...]."
\$26.00.

KS 4/3-4/59:2601 "[...]Sharp. Extremely Fine. [...]"

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1490. —:1491.

Elder 9/20/1935 (B-1).

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

IN THAT CASE, THE VAR. IN QUESTION IS THE 1803, AND THE 1804-13* COMES FIRST. *he new ones*
1801... 8 & 5. N680. 4. High dt. 1803, as 1804-13* var. 194 t. y. 13* net bust. MID-c. 15-13.
y 114, abn. arr. Actually 6-6-2 but 5-9-10-11-12, 1-2-3, 7-8-9-11, 11-11-6
are in st. lines, and the pattern of rug. congruent diamond shape is seen.
4 berries. A c³. Pt. of leaf t. I at ext. rt. pt. are. C.N. 13* t. back &
scroll. D d. wing. 1803 as 1804-13* var. 194 t. y. 13* net bust. MID-c. 15-13.
THE VAR. ANS. DESCRIPTION OF DIME REV. OF 1804 WITH 14 STARS. IS IT THE SAME DIME
314 R⁷ 02. N681. Same obverse. y 13*, normal arr., st. branch, D.c. wing. 1-7-12 net st.;
1803 6-11-13 st. In T. 1804-13* var. 194 t. y. 13* net bust. MID-c. 15-13.
1805. 7 & 6. N682. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 20; 180 as on dime. 5 resembles that on the half-
1803 1781 ce t. 6-3-1. Spur from border almost runs into 7th star.
Rev. 1. 1/2 A t. leaves & claw. D.c. wing. 15 bts, 3 of them stemless. A c³.
(Large stars, the 11th reduced. Ars. ext. only between U.N.)
1804-13* N683. LID on L-ext cap. TY c. at top. Oh tee e., 6 runs into bust. All so r. extremely

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

1806

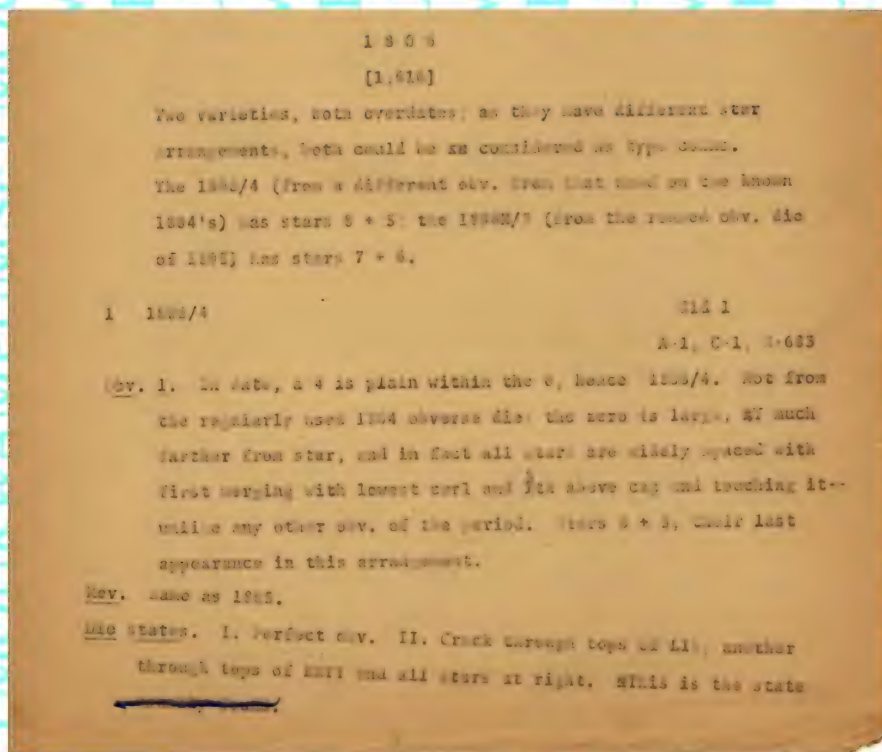


Six star facing.

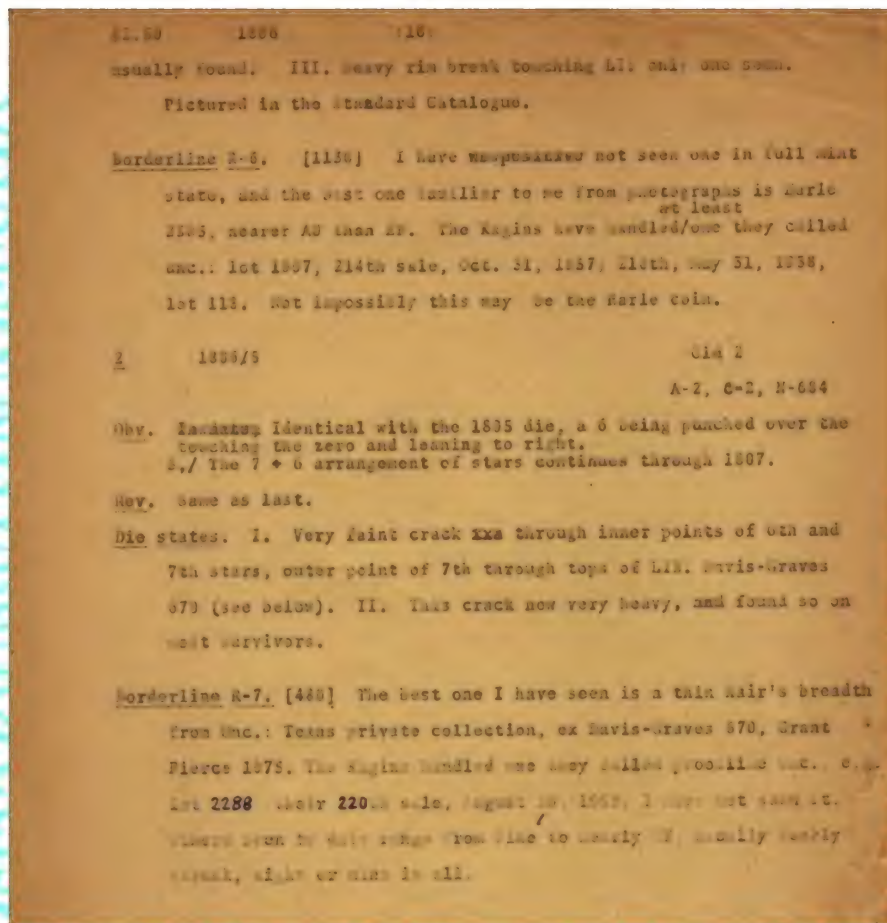


Ill's are 1806/5.

JCM#311, 10/18/33:146. 1806 over 5. EF Plate. \$250.00.



B-1 Described in WB's copy G.E.N.A. P.T.A. 9/1974:1799 see Bib. below.



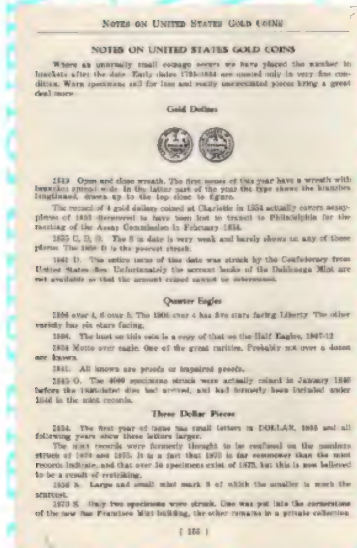
Ill's are 1806/4, 5 stars facing. Elder 6/22/35 (B-1).
 Later a crack developed bases 180; later still, crack, then cud at LI. HB_.



Two in S.I.
 Ill. is Breen 1, C-1. 1806 6/4 overdate with 5 stars facing. HB?, 1805 A.

III. is Breen 2, C-2. Six stars facing (Obv. of 1805 7+6). Altered by Scot. Always with some stage of break at LIB. Usually in low grades. Mint, S.I.; Anderson DuPont, Lilly, S.I. Newlin, Garrett:740, \$22,000, Robinson:825, AU, \$12,000.

HB 2-B?



Written/revised by Breen.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1854, '6/4'
Break tops LI(B) in AU see Artyfact.
Lot:1855 '6/4' crack tops LIBERTY in AU.
Misc. AV notes p.12.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:991 "1806 Over 4
Practically Uncirculated[...]. From the Curtis Sale[...]" \$105.00. []:992
"1806 Over 5[...].Extremely Fine. From the Col. Green Collection[...]"
\$275.00.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1492.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Artyfact WB.**

54 '6/4' Brk Lte AU
55 '6/4' ck typ Library AU
'7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-

Mehl 6/1941:1911 1806 over '04 Practically unc. [...]nick at O in OF. [...]

Lot No. 94
94 1806 6 over 4 - Stars 8 left, 5 right. Very rare variety with the heavy die break at LI as pictured in the Raymond "Standard Catalogue." Trifle shallow struck center reverse shield and eagle. Just About Extremely Fine. PLATE *of work center*

WB's annot. K 1/75:94 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

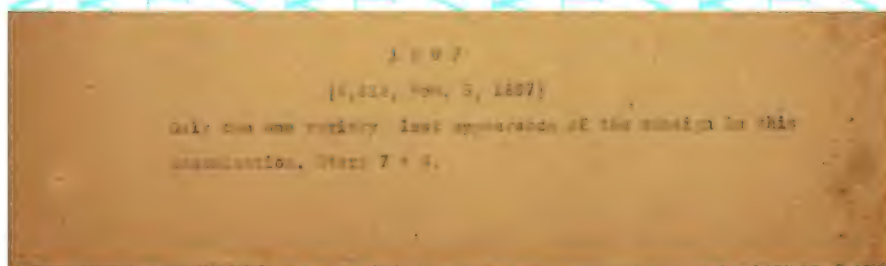
1805. 7 & 2. MS2. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on die. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, 0-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.
Rev. I. Q. & A. t. leaves & claw. Die. 15 b's, 3 of these stemless. A c 3/4.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
1806/5. 736. MS2. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on die. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, 0-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.
Rev. I. Q. & A. t. leaves & claw. Die. 15 b's, 3 of these stemless. A c 3/4.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
1806/5. 736. MS2. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on die. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, 0-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.
Rev. I. Q. & A. t. leaves & claw. Die. 15 b's, 3 of these stemless. A c 3/4.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
1806/5. 736. MS2. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on die. 5 resembles that on the half-cent, 0-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.
Rev. I. Q. & A. t. leaves & claw. Die. 15 b's, 3 of these stemless. A c 3/4.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.
Large stars, the 11th redout. A's. Text, only between U. S.

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

WB: "Missmade." To add to the first paragraph on the above ms. from another ms: Note: The 1806/5 is from the die actually used in 1805, representing one of only a dew instances where a U.S. die one used was annealed & altered for subsequent use. [This in part was {1970} The Minting Process, how coins are Made and Missmade.]

1807

Ill's. are A-U.



Rev. 1. Stars 7 + 8, as in 1893, 1894/5, but they are simply up- and look smaller than in former years.

Rev. Same as last three.

die ~~same~~ states. Perfect dies: ^{Back}coll. II. Usually found with track through bases of date to first two stars, and another from 2nd to 6th stars, a third through tops of LIBERTY.

R-4. This is the date most often available of the design. Available for a price in all grades including well struck mint state. The Randall, Parmelee, Woodin coin was called "almost proof", meaning apparently that it was an early strike from dies retaining original polish.

855 1807 Liberty Cap \$2.50 Gold Piece. A well struck Very Fine Specimen. Worth 550.00

Breen catalog, see above: CSNA 10/1960:855.

PCA III 2/14/77:93 \$1,750.00 Plate, "Extremely Fine-40". PCA III 2/14/77:94 \$1,500.00 Plate, "Very Fine-30".

BMM 3/23/48:3486 \$42.00. BMM A.Carter 10/55:91 'EF, luster.'

Scott 8/6/35 had lint mark in field above arrows (B-1).

KS 4/3-4/59:2602 "Choice Extremely Fine. [...]"

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1493.

See Bib. for WB's copy G.E.N.A. P.T.A. 9/1974:1800.

WB's copy P.T.A. Breen 2 6/75:562 'Ch AU'; —:563 "EF/AU"; —:564 'EF' die variety described.

1807^N 1 t. hair, 7 xot bust, 786. Ck. 1807-1-2, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBRARY. LIB c, 1 v. c. 19
1807^N 1 t. hair, 7 xot bust, 786. Ck. 1807-1-2, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBRARY. LIB c, 1 v. c.
Rev. of 1807.
LOCK FOR IDENTITIES 1798-1807 IN \$24 AND 11111 REV.
1807^N 1 t. hair, 7 xot bust, 786. Ck. 1807-1-2, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBRARY. LIB c, 1 v. c.

B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

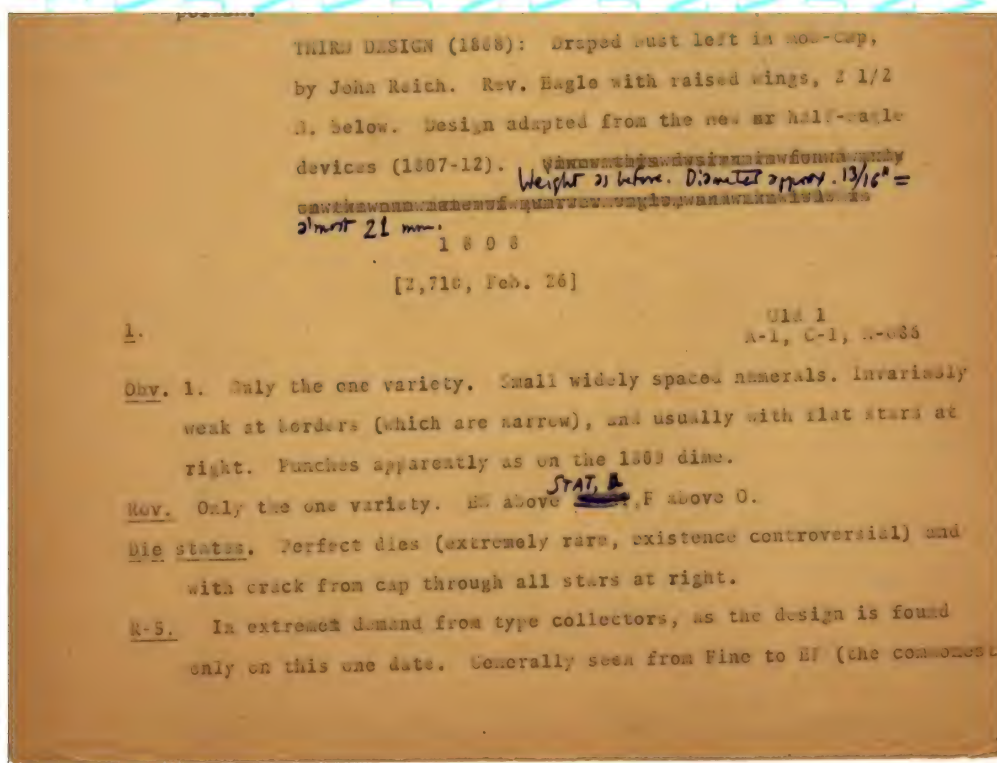
1807^N 1 t. hair, 7 xot bust, 786. Ck. 1807-1-2, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBRARY. LIB c, 1 v. c. 19
1807^N Rev. of 1807. *from the original. No. 3-6*
LOCK FOR IDENTITIES 1798-1807 IN 924 AND 1114 REVS.
1806 Only the one variety. Ck. all as a free copy.

B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

1808 Reich's Capped Draped Bust

Ill's are Breen 1, C-1. Capped bust single type coin.

HB 1-A.



GRADING STANDARDS FINE: Eye complete, ear half visible. VERY FINE: Partial cap, hair, & claw details; over half wing feather visible at least as outlines. EXTREMELY FINE: Isolated rubbed spots only; partial mint luster. UNCIRCULATED: No trace of wear.



1908 1808 1836

grade is VF-EF with edge dents, though it is usually graded higher) with a tiny sprinkling of AU's, ^{as of Great Piece 1077.} I have seen three with claims to mint state, possibly the best overall being the former Jerome Korn piece ^{(recently offered well up -- five figures).} which has unusually bold stars but a rim nick near the 2nd. Early auction records in this grade are few: H.P. Smith 246, D.S. Wilson 164.

Both the small mintage of the date, the presence of a single-year design, and the undue scarcity of the date require explanation, and I have seen none in the Archives. Possibly banks depositing bullion began specifying half eagles only. It is also likely that many of these quarter eagles were melted in later years, as is certainly the case with half eagles 1813-34.

856 1808 First Year and Only Issue of its kind with Large Bust to the Left. An Extremely Fine coin with a very lite rim nick at 3rd Star on the Obverse. Reverse has faint hairline scratches in field over Eagle's Head. However, these are minute as the coin shows very little wear. EXTREMELY RARE! 2500.00 ^{10000 1650} *Stade*

857 1836 Bust Type \$2.50 - Very Fine

See Catalogs below. Breen die mark comment at right. CSNA 10/1960:856.

John Reich, the German immigrant who sold himself into indentured service to get to the U.S. during the Napoleonic Wars. & rescued [sic] (refused) to become Assistant Engraver 1807-17, received orders from Mint Director Patterson to provide improved designs for all denominations: a slap at Scot, his superior in office. Reich's sole contribution to the quarter-eagle denomination is a single pair of dies for a single-year type coin of a tiny mintage: an instant rarity. On Feb. 26, 1808, came the single delivery, [2,710], using the date and letter punches reused on 1809 disme's, and bust device punches not later resurrected. Obverse bears Reich's usual "signature": thirteenth (lower right) star is notched. Fewer than 50 known survivors are traceable, the true number possibly between 35 and 40.

The reason for this tiny mintage is unknown, though early die breakage may have had something to do with it. All survivors, including the three Unc's., show excessively narrow borders, usually incomplete. This must have been seen as a design flaw conducive to rapid wear on both sides, as on the half-dollars reverses of 1836-37 and the Paquet double eagles. Predictably, the survivors are in lower grade range than those of earlier dates lacking this problem. The distribution includes three Uncs., possibly six AU's, 15 or more in VF-EF, perhaps a dozen in VG to F. Most are weak on wingtips and tops of letters; all are weak on parts of borders; all have some stars flat; most show rim dents or bruises, as the entire issue had been spilled on a floor at the mint. But even in worn condition, this date has always been subject to unusual demand, much of it representing pressure from type collectors who want one of each major design. Many survivors have accordingly spent decades in museums, estates, or permanent collections; any that shows up at auction will attract fierce competition.

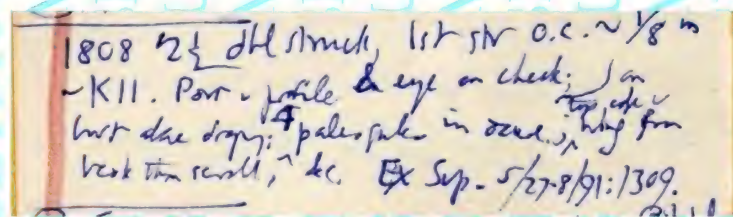
No Archives documentation explains, or even suggests, the small mintage, abandonment of the design, or noncoinage of quarter eagles for the dozen years to follow. All we have is conjectures; Breen's follow: The tiny mintage may reflect early die breakage and/or quick filling of bank orders for quarter eagles. Banks normally specified the denomination into which they wanted their deposits of foreign coins or native bullion coined, and over 90% of the time they wanted most or all of their gold deposits coined into half eagles. Except for 1816-7, when a fire at the Mint's outbuilding housed rolling mills preventing conversion of gold or silver ingots into strip or planchets, coinages of half eagles remained large. The Mint Director may have believed that until more banks ordered quarter eagles, there would no point in making

more dies for them. A more appropriate question is why quarter-eagle coinage was resumed at all; Archives documents fail to provide a reply. Requests to discontinue quarter-eagles continues periodically until 1932.

Abandonment of the design may reflect Scot's personal pique. Note that in 1813, Scot replaced Reich's perfectly good half-eagle design with his own capped-head type, and that in 1816 he replaced Reich's beautiful though eccentric "Classic Head" cent obverse with one of the ugliest conceptions ever to misrepresent Ms. Liberty: Possibly Scot's sight was then failing. See the Cent Books.

Whatever the causes, the 1808 is a highly coveted rarity. Survivors are under 2% of original mintage (earlier figure was 4%), possibly from weak borders' exposing the coins to undue wear.

[The above and below paraphrased, to avoid repetition and corrections, from 5 ms. versions of this date. Ed.]



Double struck error known.

Possibly the same as above but different description by Breen: One double struck known: AU first strike obv. stars before face shows rim, cheek with nose. this desc. is in WB's annotated Ency p. 488, less detailed than above.

David S. Wilson, Clapp, Eliasberg:89, AU, \$26,400. Kevin Lipton; Col. Green, Jerome Kern, Dr. Judd, Dr. Ketterman, Jimmy Hayes, Auction 84:1372, \$99,000, D. Akers Unc.

Mint S.I.; CMB, S.I.; A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I.; Elder 9/20/1935 (B - 1), N:1942, EF.

Written/revised by Breen.

NB 95:102 Byron Reed (1829-91) 1808 \$2 1/2 (VF+).
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

J.C. Morgenthau sale #458:786 "Faint letter M back of head and scratch at beak of eagle, otherwise extremely fine and a very good looking piece" \$87.50.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1494 VIMP "...scratches of 'E and I' in front of face..."

		EXTREMELY RARE 1808 QUARTER EAGLE	ms AU/EF 15 rim marks or usual
97	1808	Capped bust to left. Third type of Quarter Eagle and only year of this type. Design by John Reich. Choice Extremely Fine with considerable lustre. Portions of milling missing as struck. Always in demand and missing from most "type" sets. Will continue to enhance in value. PLATE	

WB's annot. K 1/75:97 above.
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

LOOK FOR IDENTITIES 1790-1807 IN Q&A AND LATE REVS.
1808 Only, the one variety. Ck. all *s r. from cap.
G194 ed No 1000 1808 lead his name 1808 .best table
1821 2710 .(1808 1808)

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

		RARE 1796 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD	
VF	2119.	1796 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD - NO STARS - ABOUT EXTRA FINE A VERY RARE COIN IN TERRIFIC DEMAND - MISSING IN MOST TYPE SETS - VERY PROBABLY WILL REALIZE NEAR (Plate)	1700.00 1850
		2120. 1802 GOLD QUARTER EAGLE - UNCIRC - FILE ADJUSTMENTS ON OBERSE - EAGLE'S BREAST A TRIFLE FLAT ON REVERSE (Plate)	727- 425.00
		VERY RARE 1808 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD	
✓	2121.	1808 QUARTER EAGLE GOLD - UNCIRC - SLIGHTEST RUBBING - SMALL DEPRES- SION BETWEEN 3RD & 6TH STARS - SEMI PROOF SURFACE - I'VE SEEN SEVERAL 1808'S AND THIS IS, BY FAR, THE NICEST ONE I HAVE SEEN - THE ONLY DATE TO FILL THIS TYPE - IN VERY GREAT DEMAND (Plate)	1450- 1800 1,800.00
	2122.	1830 QUARTER EAGLE - VF-EF - Minor rim abrasion - Considerable lustre - An attractive rare piece	155.00
	2123.	1834 Quarter Eagle - No Motto - B.U. - Considerable Proof Surface	45.00
	2124.	1806 Liberty Head & 1828 Indian Head	

WB's annot. 1959 ANA:2121 vf-ef cleaned, above.

Mehl 6/1941:1913 ...light nick on obverse right stars. EF.

SEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYNO
URWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURVA
MPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMS
EYMOURWAMPUMSEYMOURWAMPUMSEYNO
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1821 Scot's Capped Head

Physical specifications as before except
Diameter $3/4'' = 19$ mm approximately.

Ill. is a **proof**.



FOURTH DESIGN (1821-27): Same type as the Half eagles of 1813-20 I. Small capped head left (no drapery); redrawn eagle of vaguely similar design. Weight as before; diameter reduced, now $12 \frac{1}{2} / 15'' = 19$ to 19.5 mm. *By Robert Scot.*

1821
[6,448]

1.

Old 1

A-1, C-1, M-387

Obv. Last star nearer to date than on later dies of this design. Date punches same as on the small stars dimes.

Rev. Only the one die. Base of U below arc line of UNITED. Final E in STATES above first U in UNION and space to left. Large Z distant from leaf, its r. side under tip of arrow feather, its top about in line with fraction bar. Numerator and denominator both well away from bar. Stem ends above r. side of upright of D.

Die states. I. With traces of base arc lines (guide lines) between words. II. The arc lines are no longer visible.

1821 1821 1821

I-1. Generally found in Pine to 47, with a few 48 and at least four mint state examples. Rarer than its mintage suggests because of wholesale European meltings in the late 1830's-40's. After Aug. 1, 1834, all "old tenor" gold was officially worth over face value.

Proofs. The following are traced (all - Grade I):

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection, saved by Adam Eckfeldt from the year of issue.
2. Aliasberg, almost certainly ex Randall 948 (7). Parmerlee 351. Woodin 359. "Memorable" 86. ~~Unpublished~~ recently seen at two
3. Mills 337, choice. Possibly the piece ~~introduced~~ recently seen at two
4. D.S. Wilson 168 (1867). Small planchet defect on jaw, convex to upper left.
5. Noble 358 (1814). Small obv. scratch.

Occasion unknown, possibly the resumption of the denomination.

The Dr. C. H. Smith: 1821 coin is probably one of stone.

Proof: 1) S.I. see Clain-Stefanelli {1970}, figure 20. By 1990 Breen knew of 7 **proofs**. [See also **P** bk. ms.].

1) Mint, S.I.. 2) Eliasberg ex Parmelee:931, Elder 11/1911 plate Woodin:939, "Memorable":86. 3) Mills:3(5?)37, choice. 4) D.S. Wilson:165 (1907), small curved planchet defect on jaw, convex to upper left. 5) Gable:368 (1914), small obv. scratch. 6) Dr. Clifford Smith:1495. Possibly same as one above.

Personal communication to WB from ? 16, Nov. 1966: David S. Wilson, Esq. Mar 13 & 14, 1907 S.H. Chapman \$2 1/2: 1821 **Pf**, Brill lot 165, plated slight defect on jaw. See **Proof** update below.



HB 1-A.

GRADING STANDARDS: 1821-27. As 1808, though without peculiar weakness of that date. Beware all dates with solder removal as these were popular for jewelry use.

A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I.; Elder 6/22/1935, N:1943, AU proof-like.
Mint, S.I. 4.376 gms. is 180 degrees rotated reverse.

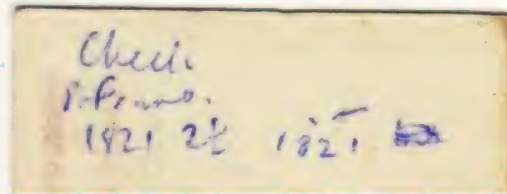
About 30-50 survive.

1821-27. Robert Scot (then 77 years old and with failing eyesight, but secure in his life tenure as Engraver) devised crude copies of his 1813 half-eagle design, and hastily translated them into one working device punch for head and another for eagle with scroll, thence into working dies. The coins were

smaller (19 mm. as against the former 20.6), but minutely thicker to preserve their weight unchanged. Letter punches were by Henry Starr.

Two obverse dies, one unused and saved until 1824 (see 1924/1)

Proof update: Arc lines on earliest business strikes (fade); bs often show tiny cheek depression from foreign matter adhering to die. Most have small curved mark on cheek from foreign matter adhering to die. G.W. Cogan 7/15/1882 became Garrett:743 \$120K. Woodin:939, Bell, "Memorable":86. Wilson & Gable are same coin.



No number NB, from the early 1950's File Misc. AV notes p.23, \$2 1/2.

"H.R.Lee" S 10/47:995 "[...]Extremely Fine, attempted puncture above cap..." \$75.00.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:92 'U' —:93 'AU'.

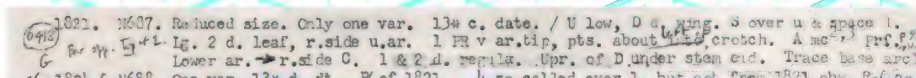
Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

See original ms. by WB in Bibliography below for additional information.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1495 for WB's comments on this "Proof".

Proof: 1974 Graves sale \$23,000.00.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



B&W copy above is superior to color original.

1824



Ill's are 1824/1.

1824
[2,600, Jan. 30.]

Always described as "over 21," but overdate is never plain.

1. Old L.
A=1, C-1, N-688.

Obv. Last star much farther from date/ than in the 1821. The 4 is over a 1, but this is obviously not the same die used in 1821. Look on the upper ~~part~~ ^{and within top of triangle} edge of diagonal of 4, using a strong glass, and you may find a ~~part of~~ ^{part of} serif of 1--never more than that.

Rev. Same as last.

Die states. On later struck coins the overdate is no longer visible.

R-5. Not much rarer than the 1821. Usually comes VF to HF; at least three mint state examples reported.

[2.50 1824 :20:]

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Collection, from Adam Eckfeldt.
2. Present owner unknown, ex Woodin 940, ex Cleneay coll. (1890), obv. perfect proof, rev. with mint frost. Ronnie McCarr reported seeing it in a private collection in the 1960's. Such "one-sided" proofs are documented for a variety of dates and denominations in the 1820's and 30's and occasionally later.
3. Present owner unknown, ex Adolphe Menjou coll., ex H.P. Smith (privately), ex Farnelee 952, ex Randall 969 (1885).
4. Winsor 506, "slight double profile." Not seen in recent years.

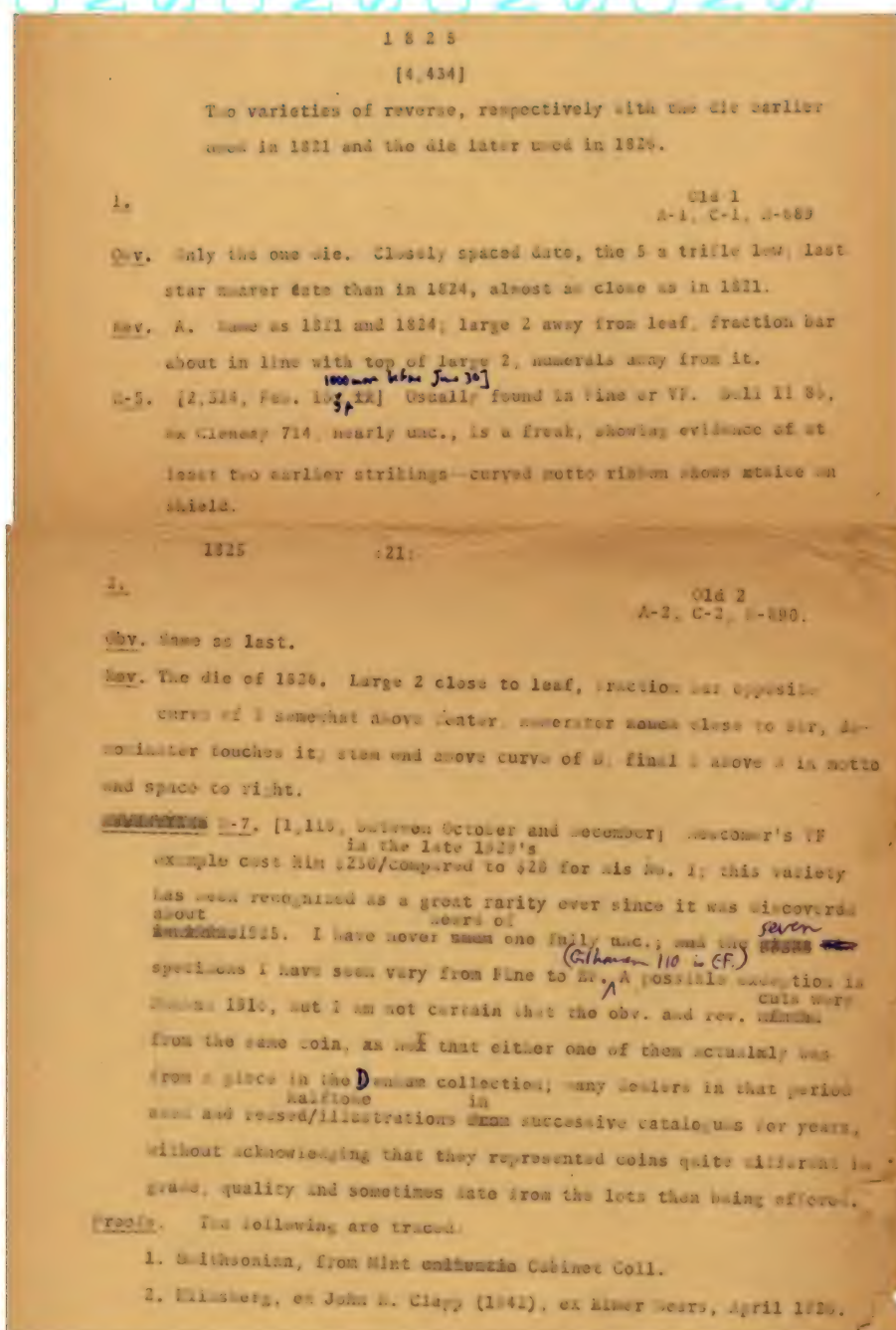
As proofs were normally given two to four blows from the dies to bring design up in exceptional clarity, it is hardly surprising that an occasional example would show minute misalignment between successive blows. I have seen ~~an~~ 1821 and 1821 and 1821 proof cents with minute but unmistakable evidence of all four blows. Occasion for manufacture of these proofs is unknown.

Proof in S.I cleaned, rev. rotated 180 degrees, 4.384 gms.; A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I. 170 degrees. [See also P bk. ms.].

Proof #2: Ex. Cleneay in W.H. Woodin Elder Sale 11/1911:940, plate.

1825

In the mid-1960's Breen found [who was source?] information (reportedly) to a second obv. die was altered for 1826 by Kneass so effectively that at most a microscopic corner of 5 shows at upper left of 6 and often not even that; its overdate status has been disputed. It must have been made long after its brother of 1825, as it has larger stars as in 1827.



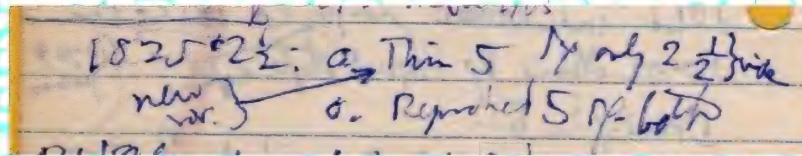
Reverse clarification (ca. 1985): First rev. is the die of 1821-4: [3,324] Feb. 16-June 30 small denominator, distant fraction; second is that of 1826-7: [1,110] Oct.-Dec. 1825. This second variety, discovered about 1915 by Waldo Newcomer, has larger denominator, close fraction, large 2 close to leaf, fraction bar opposite a point a little above center of 2, stem end directly above curve of D rather than above its upright. It remains very rare despite decades of examination of 1825's; possibly 8-10 survive.



Reverse die of 1826.

Ill. is a **proof**. 1) S.I.; 2) Bell 1944; Elmer Sears, 4/1926, J.H.Clapp, 1942. 3) Impaired, above: Breen 2, C-2, polished, marks on cheek, dig between stars

3-4. One of the above is Gaylord:102, ex Bell I, or a third? [2?]. [See also P bk. ms.].



NB C:174. New varieties: 1) Thin 5, rev. only 2 1/2 wide. 2) Repunched 5, rev. both.

Distant fraction [3,324] Often weak on head. Later rev. crack, usual, HB2-1821A; 5 reported. One proof in S.I.; 'A.DuPont', Lilly, S.I. Unc.. Carter:538, Unc., \$17,600, R.L. Hughes.

Close fraction [1,110 + ?P] 2 proofs reported; possibly 8-10 business strikes, coined Oct.-Dec. 1825. HB 2-B = rev. 1827.

Thin 5 = HB 1-1821A, rev. double struck, 2 high, base above 8-5. Ex rare.

IMPORTANT In Breen's annotated Encyclopedia {1988} he questioned the illustration 6129 1825 Ex J.W. Garrett:746: "? diff obv from mint 6128"

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1497 for WB's comments. ms. FCI Descriptions of New Varieties {1977} (1/1976-4/77) Breen 1. Wide fraction. Sharpness nearly EF, surfaces matte from skil[l]ful repairs. Better looking than it sounds. B0009.

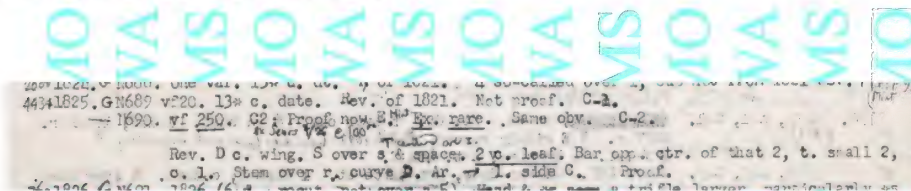
BMM A. Carter 10/55:94 'U...semi-proof.'

Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Annotation WB.**

99 1825 Evenly worn Very Good to Fine with traces of mint lustre on reverse. A difficult type to obtain and even in this low grade worth a substantial bid. 81

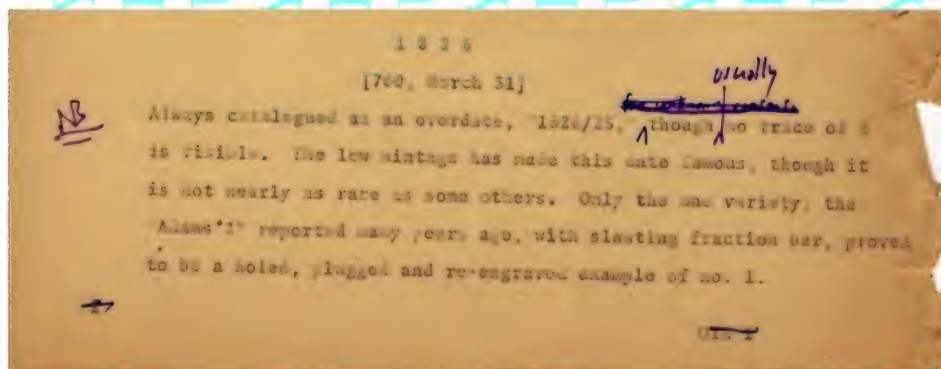
WB's annot. K 1/75:99 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



This above B&W copy superior in detail with color original scan.

1826
[760]



See 1825 for altered 1825/6 die.



Look at 6, outside upper left, for vestiges of a 'possible' 5.



\$2.50 1826

:22:

1

Old 1
A-1, C-1, N-692

Obv. Stars larger than formerly. Head also looks a little larger and bolder than on 1821-25--probably a heavier impression of the same hub. Double punched 6, first high, then corrected lower. On the very earliest ~~em~~impressions, a minute corner shows at upper left (Gilhousen 111), though never any other hint of a 5.

Rev. Die of 1825 no. 2 and 1827.

Die states. Recutting fades from the 6. Clash marks often from scroll in obv. fields, and from head around eagle.

R-6 high, possibly borderline R-7. At least two more or less unc.:

Davis-Graves 676, Grant Pierce 1081(reappearing as Miles 93).A third, Earle 2514, is just short of unc., with a small mint clip plainest above head. In the Stickney sale (1907), Henry Chapman claimed that about seven were known to exist. I would be more inclined to agree had he said a dozen.

Proofs. We can be reasonably sure of one: Neil 2405, not seen in recent years--probably the one known to Wayte Raymond. This is believed to be the finer of the two handled by the Kagens--lot 877, their 228th sale, Sept. 12, 1959. They had another alleged proof with light ~~am~~handling marks: lot 121, their 218th sale (May 31, 1958), reappearing as lot 233, their 227th sale, Aug. 1, 1969. If this latter is not actually a proof (I have not seen it), it is probably one of the two top grade specimens earlier mentioned. I have not heard of another, nor had Edgar Adams. Either the Mint Coll. never had one, or theirs was long since traded away, as the one now in the Smithsonian came ~~from~~ ^{to} the Mint Coll. ~~from~~ ^{from} H.P.Newlin, Dec. 15, 1885.

Proof #3) Newlin, 12/15/1885, Mint, S.I.; is this a proof? [See also P bk. ms. Three pieces.].

2^d 1826 o. b. later heavily clashed from
 wing & scroll
 (C) Entry } enter data from Harry Bass's inventory.
 (P) Hc

NB C:174: Later heavily clashed from wings & scroll.

Pierce, Miles, Ullmer:359, Unc., \$14,500 (1974); Auction 79:225, Unc., \$31,000. "A. DuPont", Lilly, S.I. 1650 4.345 gms.

Proofs: Possibly 3 survive (ca. 1985). Mint, S.I., 170 degrees rotated rev., 4.385 gms.

HB 1-1825B later obv. & rev. clashed.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1854 Break rim to tops LI(B). 'AU'. —:1855 Crack tops LIBERTY 'AU'. 1859-60 '26, 7 Unc.-. Misc. AV notes p.12.

—:1859-60 1826, 1827 respectively 'U'.

SA '6/4' Brk Lib AU
 SS '6/4' ck top LIBERTY AU

NB 95:102 Byron Reed (1829-91) \$2 1/2 EF-AU.

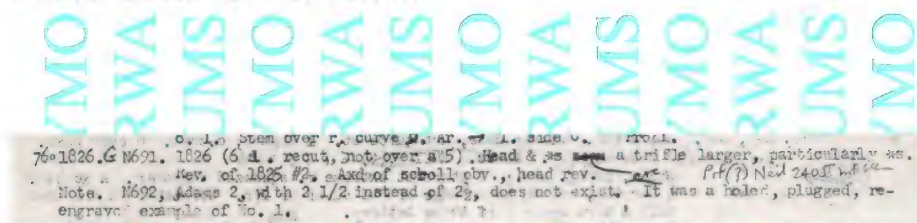
"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:998 "1826 Over 5[...]Extremely Fine with some proof surface. This is the Curtis specimen[...] \$200.00.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:95 'U[...]brilliant mint luster.'

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

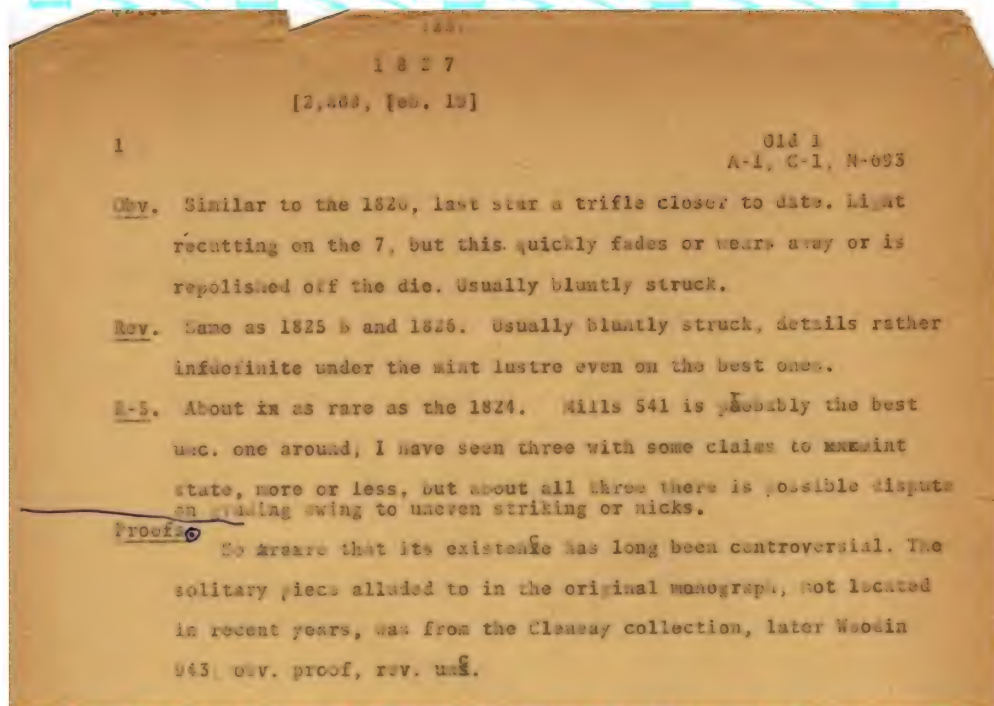
See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1498 for WB's comments.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

1827



Proof [see P bk. ms.].

See important catalog JCM 278th lot 217.in Bibliography below "[EF] [...]beautiful sharp impression[...]", \$105.

Usually weak on head.

Carter:540, Unc., \$17,600.

HB1-1825B rev. lapped to efface clash marks.

Two in S.I.



About 30-50 survive.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field: 1859-60 '26, 7 Unc.- Misc. AV notes p.12.
BMM Farouk 2/1954 (B-1).

JCM#311, 10/18/33:153 Unc. \$125.00 Plate.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1499 for WB's comments.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

See Bibliography below, original ms. for information on 1827 'one-sided-proof'.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

1827, G Similar to 132, 13a sl. closer to dt. Rev. 1825 G2, 1826. 1893. *See the top of the coin*
1827 1/2 CENT. BRASS. SWAIN. 1827. 1893. *See the top of the coin*

This above B&W copy is superior to original color scan.

Revised Statutes Act 6/22/1874 section 3548: "The brass troy weight was procured by the Minister of US at London[...]shall be the standard troy pound of the Mint of the US[...]"

1829 Kneass' Modified Capped Head 1829-34.



FIFTH DESIGN (1829-34): Modification of previous types. Stars smaller, beaded border surrounded by a high raised rim, head and eagle slightly modified in being redrawn by Kneass, letters smaller. Flans are thicker. From now on, struck in a "close collar" which compressed the flans at striking, imparting to them a reeded edge of complete uniformity, and an equal diameter, here $3\frac{1}{4}$ " = 19 mm. Weight as before. By William Kneass.

1829

[3,483, Feb. 9.]

The coins of 1829-33 are approximately equal in mintage and rarity, the same ~~on~~ ^{obverse and reverse} on proofs and uncs. each year, there being only one variety of the year. There are, however, more ~~than~~ ^{than} proofs ~~than~~ ^{than} of 1829 than of any of the



1829 1834
 Later years of this type, probably being made to celebrate
 the new improved design.

1. Fig 1
A-1, C-1, D-2034.

Obv. Same numeral punches as used on the dimes; square based 2.
 Eleventh star xx shows double punching.

Rev. Final S of STATES above S xx of motto and space to right; lowest
 arrow points to I, not C; II closely spaced.

R-5, almost R-6. Usually found VF to As, at least half the known
 specimens being EF. There are also five or six prooflike mint
 state specimens around.

Proofs. The following are known:

1. Smithsonian, ex mint Cabinet Collection.
2. Louis Eliasberg. Possibly the same as next.
3. "Memorable" 89, ex Cohen 186 (1875), Parades 893 (1893),
 Woodin, V.C.C. Boyd, SOC 55.
4. RR 48th, lot 174, ex T.L. Cassili, ex Vincer 350, impaired.
5. RR 48th, lot 373, ex "W.R. Lee" 1849 (Eliasberg duplicates),
 Eliasberg, J.R. Clapp. Impaired.
6. Menjeu 1175, impaired.
7. "Cicero" 283, impaired.
8. The piece handled by the Eagles: cf. their 214th sale, lot
 1011 (Oct 31, 1857): 218th, lot 122 (May 31, 1858)s; 293rd, lot
 1786 (April 9, 1971).
 Still others may exist.

Martin Paul: 1829 24 (C) ex Koin
 9/71:1206 → Atlanta Sale 8/23/52
 rim nick, below space between 18. Striae stars 1-3
 #51-3 John #9-14-11 13

NB 77:63 **Proof** [...]rim nick space between 18. Striae stars 1-3[...]Atlanta
 sale[...]Proofs were struck for new design; unusually large number. [See also
 P bk. ms.: Seven known plus one other possible].

Unc. Auction 85:___ \$35,200; Auction 87:382; Auction 79:765, Unc., \$17,000; Carter:541, Unc., \$14,300; Garrett:1980, Proof, \$105,000; Proof Mint, S.I.; A. DuPont, Lilly, S.I. Unc..

Proof 7) “Cicero” 236 was in NN 55:263, EF but obviously had been a proof, Breen wrote this catalog.

“H.R. Lee” S 10/47:1000 1829 A beautiful Brilliant proof with a wire edge, just like it left the mint. [...]” \$100.00.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:97 ‘Semi-proof.’

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

KS 4/3-4/59:2603 “Considerable proof surface. [...]Plate”.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1500 for WB’s comments.

WB noted one in Eliasberg coll.

For Auc ’85 see Bib. below: NB 56:164-5.

GRADING STANDARDS 1829-34. Grade range F to Unc., most often VF-AU. Grade standards, as before, (1808, 1821-27) but without the peculiarities of 1808.

After Robert Scot died in 1823, the Mint hired William Kneass, a local engraver of bank-note plates, as his successor. Kneass’ special assignment was not to create new designs but to improve existing designs of all series in his spare time, by mechanically multiplying working dies from current device punches. This project yielded modified designs for dismes in 1828, followed in 1829 by similar improved versions of half dismes, quarter eagles, and half eagles, and in 1831 by their counterparts in half cents and quarter dollars. Cents and half dollars would not be attempted for several years, there was still too much demand for coinage in these denominations to afford time to create new device punches.

Kneass’ modified designs were notable for smaller stars and letters (from punches made by Gobrecht), redrawn heads and eagles (with a more professional look than Scot’s frequently crude conceptions), but most of all for beaded borders surrounded by high, plain raised rims produced by a “close collar.” This new invention consisted of a heavy block of steel containing a hole the same diameter as the finished coin, grooved to impart the reeded edge; this resisted edgewise expansion of planchets at the moment of striking, furnishing “a mathematical equality to their diameters,” actd Mint Director Samuel More. See 1829 Half-Eagle for more details.

1830



18.50 1830 1837
and of
distance from bust, points 6th above top of ear, 11th practically
touches curl; 18 lean right.

Rev. Identical to last. Recutting on 3 now weak. Same

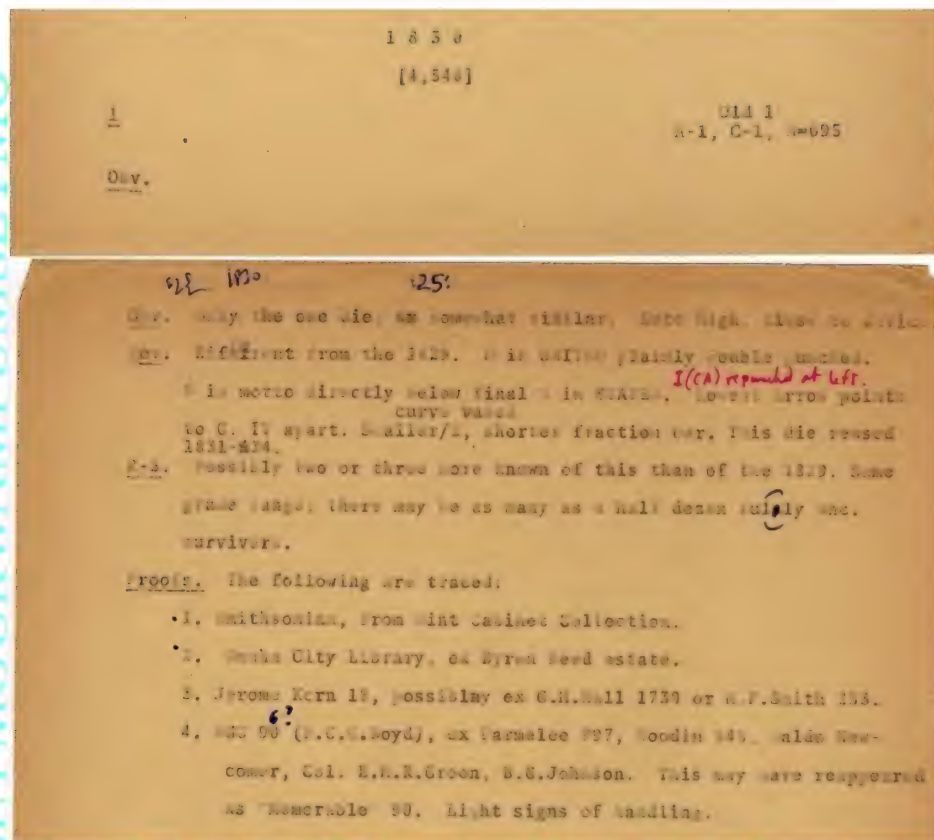
4-5. Neither appreciably rarer nor appreciably commoner than 1831-32.
Same grade range.

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mini Cabinet Collection.
2. William Private coll., seen in NCM in the 1830's, ex Mills 548,
ex Parmelee 1822. Choice. Possibly Davis-Graves 881, A.M. Hall
1752.
3. "Wonderful" 93, ex Woodin, Newcomer, Col. Green, S.G. Johnson
and various dealer intermediaries. Possibly originally Gable
379. Hairmarked, some handling marks.
4. At least ^{two} others reported.

Though it is as yet impossible to know if the coins were dated
1831, '32 or '33, or if in fact any survived the melting pot,
there were six experimental pieces struck and sent to a congress-
sional committee studying coinage reform proposals (eventually to
become the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837). They were distinguished
by one to six minute points impressed above the eagle's head.
They are identifiable by the color and weight, if any survive.

1. Pure unalloyed gold. Wt. 61.875 grains.
2. Gold alloyed with silver only: 67.5 grains standard =
31.875 grains gold, 3.625 gr. silver. Pale compared with the
regular issue.
3. Gold alloyed with equal parts silver and copper: 61.875
grains gold, 2.8125 each of silver and copper, total 67.5 grains.
4. Gold alloyed with copper only: 67.5 grain total, proportionate
as in no. 3. This is reddish compared with regular issue.
5. Gold alloyed with equal parts silver and copper: 67.5 grains



Proof A reverse first made proofs, then 4,540 uncirculated coins, then repolished for proofs of 1831. See 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834.

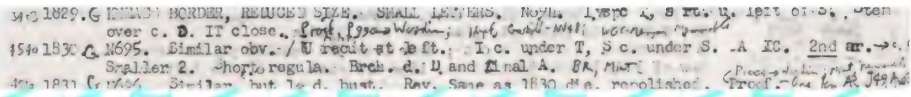


Proof 4 may have reappeared as H.R. 11/69:397, \$2,900..[See also P bk. ms.].

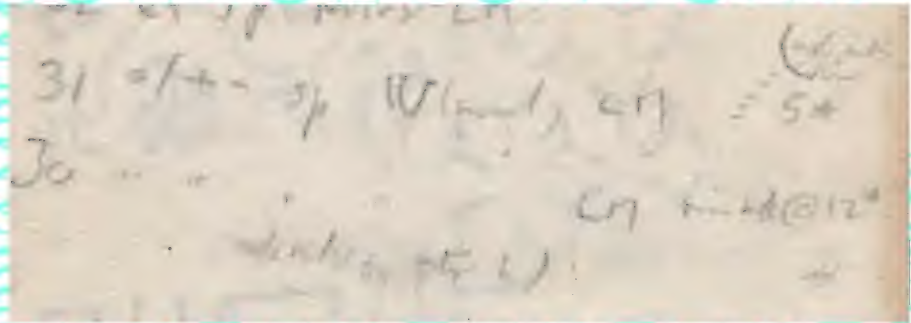
Research in the Archives (1951-2) 207-46 RMD 1/12 1830 dated 1/1/31 126351 \$2 1/2 [4540].

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1501 VIMP. "...dent...".

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.



NB:WBV#7p.4 Above. Die markers, see also 1831 below.

"H. R. Lee" S 10/47:1001 "1830 Brilliant proof..." \$85.00.

JCM #458 'U' to WR \$57.00.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

1831

Proof. See 1830, 1832, 1833, 1834. A 1830 reverse was repolished, a *second* time, made proofs, then placed in the regular press and struck 4520 business strikes. [See also P bk. ms.eight known.].



1 8 3 1
[4,520]

1. Jan 1
A-1, B-1, C-196

Obv. Only the one variety. Smaller, but first star farther from
butt.

Rev. The repolished die of 1830.

P-E. About as rare as the 1830. Same grade range.

Proofs. The following are traced:

1. Smithsonian, from Mint Cabinet Coll.
2. AMS.
3. ex Annie Carr. This may be same as 4, 5 or 6.
4. Davis-Graves 880.
5. "Monetary" 81, ex Randall 175 (1885), Parson 1004, Webb
846; may have reappeared as Grant Pierce 1815 at \$5000.
6. The piece supposedly handled by the Regins.

7. Hall 11 81 (1883). Repaired.
Compare also Whitney 779, State 118 (1883). British 1118,
claimed to be a proof, turned out to be a 1830 first strike.
There is also a silver imitation (in a silver strike) known.
Wood 30, Wood 31; various others; at least 11 not yet a first
strike.

HB1-1831-A.



Business strikes are mostly EF-AU or better.

A gold **proof** set was known in the 1950's.

At least 8 **proofs**, 4 with minor impairment; Stickney, Clapp, Eliasberg:97, \$38,800, D. Kagin; Bell II:91 imp.; Golden II:1774; Dr. Smith:1502; ? which is Stickney:739, Earle:2519 (hairmarked). Melish:1118 turned out to be a fairly deceptive early business strike.[...].

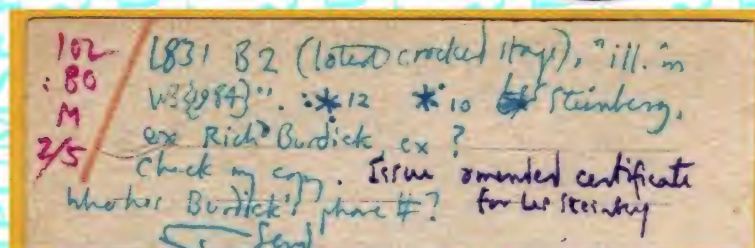


Ill. is a

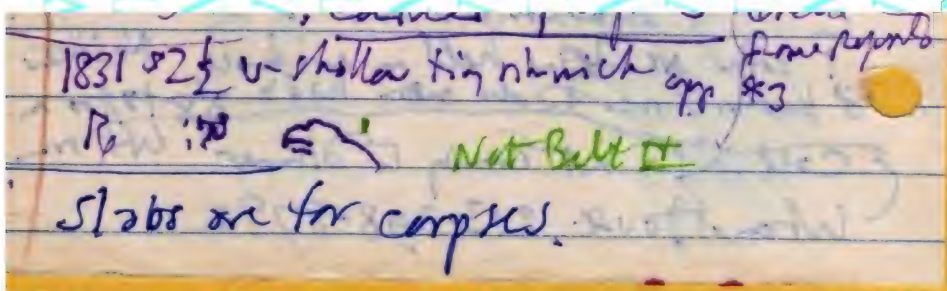
proof.



Breen 1, C-1.



Second die variety discovered.



Third die variety. NB93:160.

Slabs are for corpses. WB's opinion of slabbed coins.

Variety **four**: rusty obv. die. See Artyfact 1830 above.

RitA (1951-2) 217-57 RDM 1831 1/16 dated 1/1/31 140504 \$2 1/2 [4520].

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1502 for comments by WB on the "Proof".

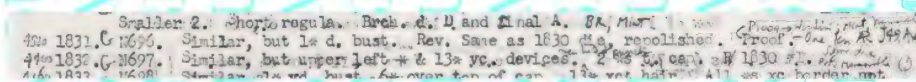
Judd 3rd: Quarter Eagle. Regular dies trial piece. #49 Silver, reeded edge. (A-W 39). Unique. From the same dies as Proofs. Annot by WB: Dr. Judd collection.

BMM 6/12/1951 Rappaport-Field:1863 '31 Unc.. Misc. AV notes p.12.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

1941 ANA:648 Proof.

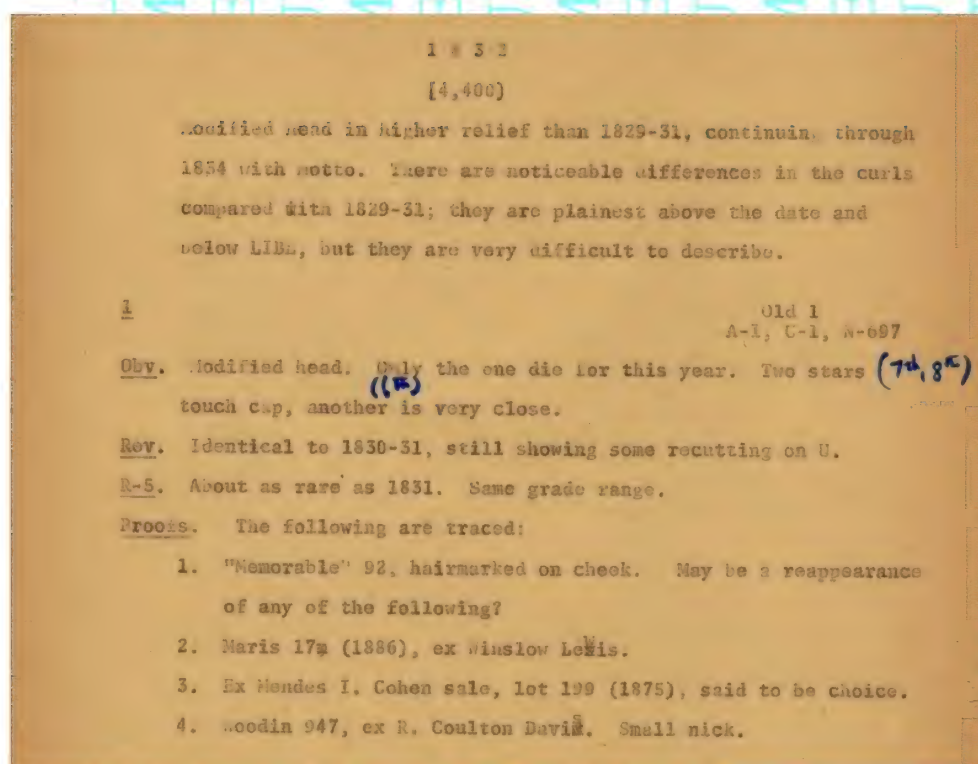
Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.



This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.

1832 Modified Head

Proof Ill. right. See 1830, 1831, 1833, 1834. The same reverse of 1830 was used for proofs, then struck 4400 business strikes.[See also P bk. ms.].





Ill. is Breen 1, C-1. Uncirculated.

RitA (1951-2) 234-54 RDM 1832 1/19 dated 1/15/33 157487 [4400].

NB:WBV#6 p. 4 ef sp[semi prooflike] (Tobias)-LM.

“H.R. Lee” S 10/47:1003 “1832 A small cut on face, and scratches on neck[...].” \$40.00.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below.

Lot No. 102
 102 1832 Sharp. Extremely Fine with some handling marks; tiny nick, old scratch. Mintage again low, only 4400 struck. We doubt very much if there are 100 pieces still in existence. The time to buy this type is now. Bid to buy! PLATE

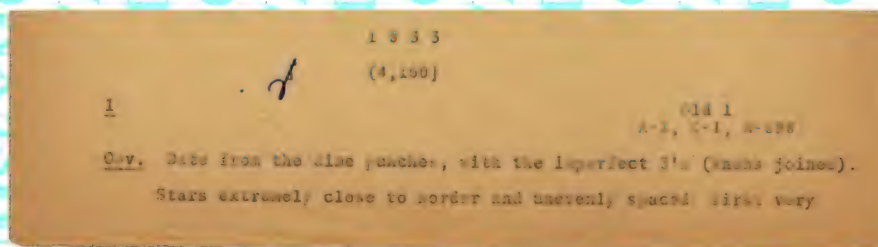
WB's annot. K 1/75:102 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

430 1831.C. N696. Similar, but 1* d. bust... Rev. Same as 1830 die, repolished. Proof. - One for AR J497.
 440 1831.C. N697. Similar, but upper left * & 13* yr. device. 2 * 8* 5, cap. as 1830 #1. 1830 #1. 1830 #1.
 410 1833.. N698. Similar, 1* vd. bust. 6* over top of cap. 13* xct hair. All *s xs border, not

This above B&W copy superior to original color scan.

1833



Ill. above is a **proof**. HB1-1830A



Ill. is AU.



Proof See 1830, 1831, 1832, 1834. The same 1830 reverse repolished a fourth time and struck proofs, then was used to strike 4,160 business coins. [See also P bk. ms.].

total, consisting of 59.4 grains gold, 2.2 silver, 4.4 copper.
This total weight was transferred to the Director's new assay.
6. Gold alloyed as to No. 1 but with twice as much copper as
silver: 59 grains total = 59.4 gold, 2.2 silver, 4.4 copper.

The above six specimens may well exist in private hands or
estates, since they were actually delivered to the committee. The
weight and appearance as described should distinguish them from
any other quarter eagles with small round nicks above eagle's head.
The accompanying letter (partly quoted in Judd, U.S. Mint, Experimental and Trial Pieces, 19) is from Congressional papers,
16th Congress, 1st Session, Serial Set 139-6. Special Report of
the Director of the Mint, prepared Dec. 2, 1853 and submitted the
following day, pursuant to Committee resolution of the previous
March 12. In this lengthy report, the Director recommended a
change from 15.1 to 15.2551, by reducing the weight of pure gold
in each coin compared to the weight of alloy; a seigniorage charge
for refining bullion; a charge on certain assays, relative to the
percentage of error permitted in assays; establishing the weight of
the copper cent at 103 grains by law rather than by presidential
order, and allowing it legal tender status up to its. (This last
was ignored; copper cents were never legal tender during the entire
period of their minting, though they are legal tender now by an
act of some years ago which specified that all U.S. coinages,
current and uncirculated and obsolete, of all denominations and purity,
henceforth would be legal tender.) In this document the letter
transmitting the quarter eagles is dated "January 11, 1852," which
is believed to be a typographical error for 1853.

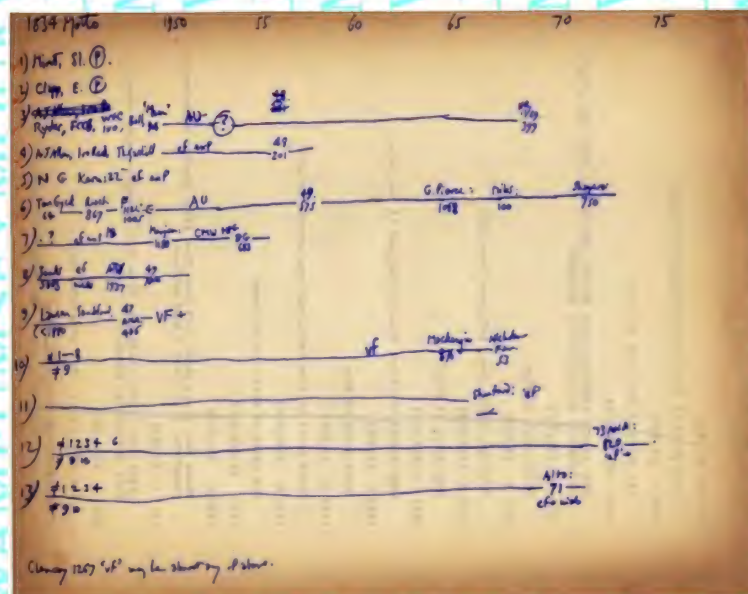
His recommendations about the above six single quarter eagles
were as follows: Color and wearing properties are much improved

See Breen's annotated Judd 3rd below.

If the gold notes contain both silver and copper in the alloy, Nos. 5, 6 and 8 above, but none of the others, have good color; no. 5 and 6 are specially recommended as conforming to the max. proposal for an eagle to weigh 264 grains (237.8 grains fine gold, 26.4 alloy which should contain from 38 to 39% silver, the rest copper, i.e. from 4.8 to 13.2 grains silver).

At 1837 (not 1834)

The Mint Act of 1834 eventually provide that the red tender gold should contain/not more than 80 parts silver per thousand, not less than 10 parts copper. This provision was to make difficulties in the early 1840's owing to the abnormally high proportion of silver in native California gold and the extreme difficulty of procuring parting acids to replace enough silver by copper to conform to the law, but that is unnecessary for another book.



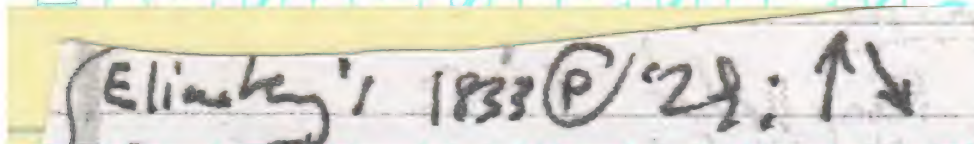
S.H. & H. Chapman sale 4/27-9/1904:546 **Proof** John G. Mills Esq..

1988 update Proof: 1) Mint; 2) Parmelee...possible 2 not Davis-Graves, Graves is 3; 3) Hall, Graves; 3) is 4; 5) Private coll.. 3 in S.I., includes 1 proof.



Ill. is Breen 1, C-1. Gem proof.

S.I. proof coin rev. rotated 210 degrees, 4.376 gms.
NB 106:238 below.



RitA (1951-2) 254-48 RDM 1833 1/13 dated 1/1/34 193630 [4160].

[not in Checklist] 254-8 RDM **special** 12/3 dated 12/2/33. Response to Committee res. of Dishonest 3/10.

(Also, this was found in Dime information [same dies]): Page 19 of same (bound) doc., letter of 1/11/1832: For the purposed of exhibiting the preferred appearance to the content of fine gold produced by various proportions of Sil. & Cu. employed as an alloy of a gold coin, a no. of specimens of the Qr. eagle are for [several words missing, WB's paper was torn here] to which the House is respectfully referred. [Footnote The #'s are designated in minute points impressed on the rev. of each coin above the hd of the eagle.]

#1: 61 7/8 gr. pure gold, being the quantity at present req in the qr. eagle.
Same intrinsic value as reg.

#2: 61 7/8 " " " & 5 5/8 gr. sil. " " " " "

#3: " " " " & 2 13/16 gr. Cu., 2 13/16 gr. Sil. " " " " "

#4: " " " " & 5 5/8 gr. Cu. " " " " "

#5: 59.4 grs. " " & 3.3 gr. Sil., 3.3 gr. Cu. Confirm to proposed change to
264 grains eagle 237.6 gold, 26.4 gr. alloy.

#6: " " " " & 2.2 " " 4.4 " " .
" " " " " " " " " " " "

#s 2 & 4 least attractive: #s complexion too pale, #4 too high. #3
& 5 better appearance.

272-74 RDM1834. 1/10 dated 1/1/35 \$10 — \$5 732169 \$2 1/2 117570

208-76 " 1835 1/20 " 1/1/36 " " " 371534 " 131402

In 1834, \$1,067 M Gold of former ratio recoined. Also 'One of the Engineers
of the Mint is now engaged in preparing a \$ 1 die? This letter continues with
Branch Mint purchase (N.O.)....

See original below.



Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Proof.**

OC NN 1952 ANA:572 "Round cap on Liberty; Motto over eagle. Ex. Fine.
This rare coin is almost Uncirculated. but has been cleaned and slightly
handled. Worth \$65.00 today." Sold to Coal \$67.1/2. See Bib. below.

See Catalogues below: S Smith 5/55:1504 for WB's comments VIMP.

Lot No. 103

103 1833 Probably purchased around 1915 (?) because coin came from Henry Chapman and cost \$7.50. The original Chapman envelope and ticket with lot. Grading by the conservative Mr. Chapman Very Good and today we feel at least Fine would be acceptable. Scarce. PLATE

only F

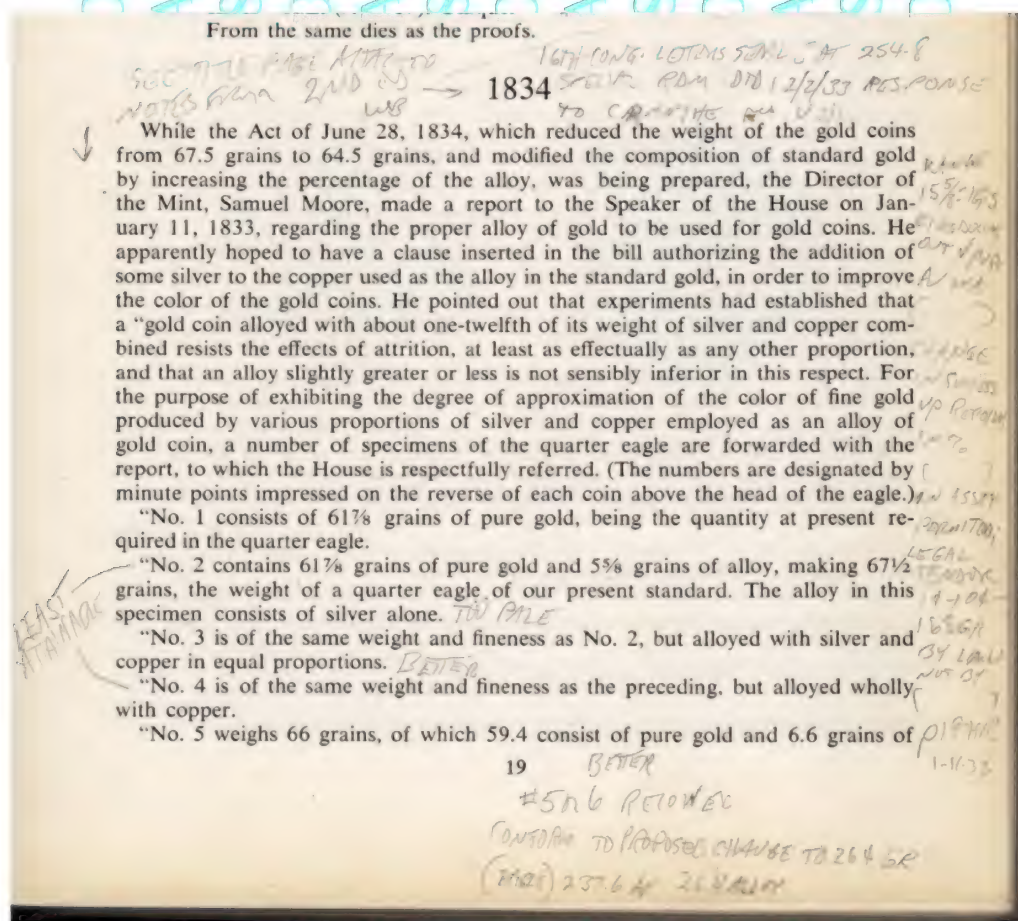
WB's annot. K 1/75:103 above.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

479 103. 1/75. Similar, but upper left & 1/2 yd. over top pf. cap. 1/2 x 1/2. All as xs border, not
479 1833. 1/75. Similar, 1/2 yd. over top pf. cap. 1/2 x 1/2. All as xs border, not
479 1833. 1/75. Similar, 1/2 yd. over top pf. cap. 1/2 x 1/2. All as xs border, not
479 1833. 1/75. Similar, 1/2 yd. over top pf. cap. 1/2 x 1/2. All as xs border, not

Above B&W scan is superior to original color scan.

1834 Act Judd



1834 Continued

alloy, which alloy consists of silver and copper in equal proportions.

"No. 6 is of the same weight and fineness as the preceding, but alloyed with silver and copper in the proportion of one part of the former to two parts of the latter.

"The first four specimens are of the intrinsic value of our present quarter eagle. The fifth and sixth are conformable to the coinage in which the eagle would contain 264 grains of standard gold, consisting of 237.6 grains of pure gold and 26.4 grains of alloy."

Apparently all of these were melted as none are known to exist today.

QUARTER DOLLAR. Regular dies trial piece.

50. Copper—R.E. R.S. Two known.

HALF EAGLE. Regular dies trial piece without E PLURIBUS UNUM on the reverse.

51. Copper—P.E. (A-W 40) R.S.

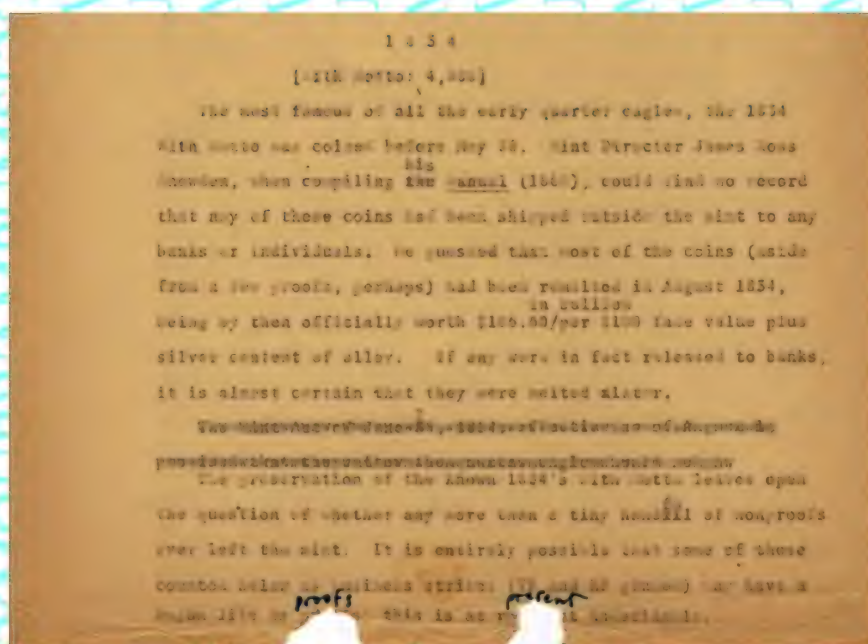
51a. Copper—R.E. R.S.

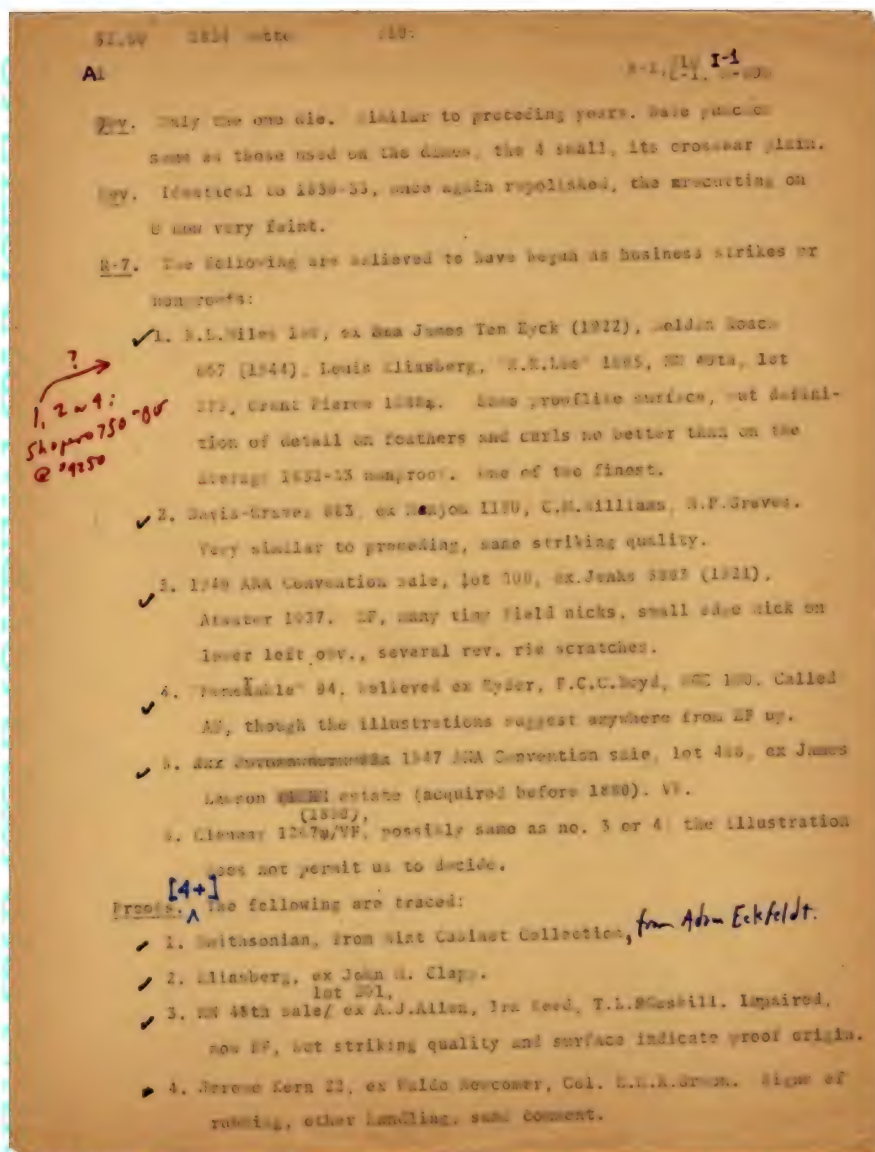
1834 With Motto

Proof. See 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833. A single 1830 reverse was repolished for a *fifth* time, recutting of the U of UNITED used to strike three proofs. Then used to strike 4,000 on May 30th.[See also P bk. ms.].
HB1-1830A.



Ill's. are of a **proof**. H.P.Newlin, 12/31/1884.





Proof. 1-4. And Non-Proof 1-6.

1) Annot. Ency 18.5 mm, 4.377 gms, 190 degrees rotated.

5) Is 3rd: H. Newlin (12/31/1884), T. H. Garrett, J.W. Garrett:753, \$60,000, Auction 82:1860, \$30,000, AU, ex-proof.

6) A.J. Allen, Ira Reed, T.L. Gaskill, NN 48:201, EF, ex-proof.

7) Is 1 NP above. J. Ten Eyck, Belden Roach, L. Eliasberg, NN 49:575, Grant Pierce, R.L. Miles:100, \$6,600, Nathan Shapiro:750, \$4,200, AU.

- 8) Is 3 NP above. J.S. Jenks, W.C. Atwater, C. Hester, 1949 ANA, Chadwick-Darnell:158, EF. Possibly same as no. 15 below? N:1953 EF, ex A. King, 1/2/1953. WB note: through Kosoff C-D.
- 9) Is 4 above.
- 10) Is 2 NP above. C.M Williams, A. Menjou:1180, H.P. Graves, EF. Possibly same as no. 14 or 14?
- 11) Is 4 above.
- 12) Is 5 NP above. James Lawson estate (before 1880), Mabel Sandford, 1947 ANA, VF+. ?same as 18.
- 13) Mackenzie, Nicholson Family:53. VF. Possibly same as one of above.
- 14) "Alto":71. Same comment.
- 15) A. Lamborn, "Fairfield":1461, \$19,000, Auction 80:888, EF, \$33,000. Same comment.
- 16) Shuford:1723. Possibly same as one of above; quality of photographic reproduction prevents certainty.
- 17) 1973 ANA:820. Same comment.
- 18) Anderson DuPont, Lilly, S.I.. 4.325 gms., 18.4 mm, 195 degrees rotated.

Breen's register of known & traceable, in 1975, his study began in 1950.

1834 Motto, the most famous of these years, and one of the most illustrious of all American gold rarities, is 1834 with motto. Most of the [4,000] coined before May 30 remained in the Mint, to be melted after Aug. 1, when the new law became effective, reducing standard weight enough to render each old-tenor quarter eagle worth \$2.665 (+ silver content of alloy). Several survivors originated as proofs, and not impossibly all did; no mint-state business strike is known (ca. 1990), and all the best ones have proof surface. Mint Director J.R. Snowden (1860) could find no record that any business strikes of 1834 old-tenor were released. The roster is as nearly complete as possible, though quality of illustrations in some auction catalogues precludes positive identification. "Musical Chairs" must be accepted.

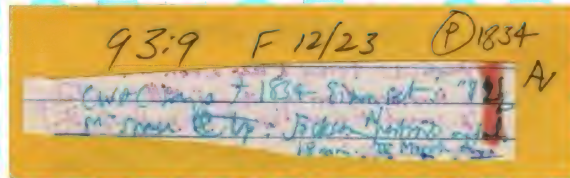
One other may still exist. The original case made up for diplomatic presentation to the King of Siam (Nov. 1834) had room for the coin with motto, though when this set was located in 1962 the quarter eagle of this type had disappeared. As there were four sets in all made up, presumably all were intended to include the (old-tenor) coin with motto; conceivably three of the surviving proofs, impaired or otherwise, might have originated with these

sets. (That in the Smithsonian had been in the Mint Cabinet Collection at least since Adam Eckfeldt's day, 1838).

One other variety with motto is claimed to have existed. This is Adams 2, listed as Clapp 1A but not seen by him. Significantly, Adams provided neither photograph nor auction reference in any of his surviving gold notebooks. It is not one of the above known (ms) specimens. Descriptions after Adams:

Obv. Similar to no. 1, but 6th star farther from cap.

Rev. Similar, but E in STATES is above U in motto, "almost central," whereas on no. 1 E is above BU; "S of STATES projects beyond S of PLURIBUS."



NB 93:9. Verification of type is necessary.

"H.R. Lee" S 10/47:1005 1834 With motto over Eagle. Probably not more than 10 or 12 pieces are known. This is a brilliant semi proof with raised borders[...]." \$750.00.

JCM#311, 10/18/33:158 "1834 With motto over eagle. Uncirculated and one of the rarest United States gold coins. *Illustrated.*" \$750.00.

Compare Harry Bass Collection below. **Proof.** WB.

BMM A.Carter 10/55:102 '...Practically u...'

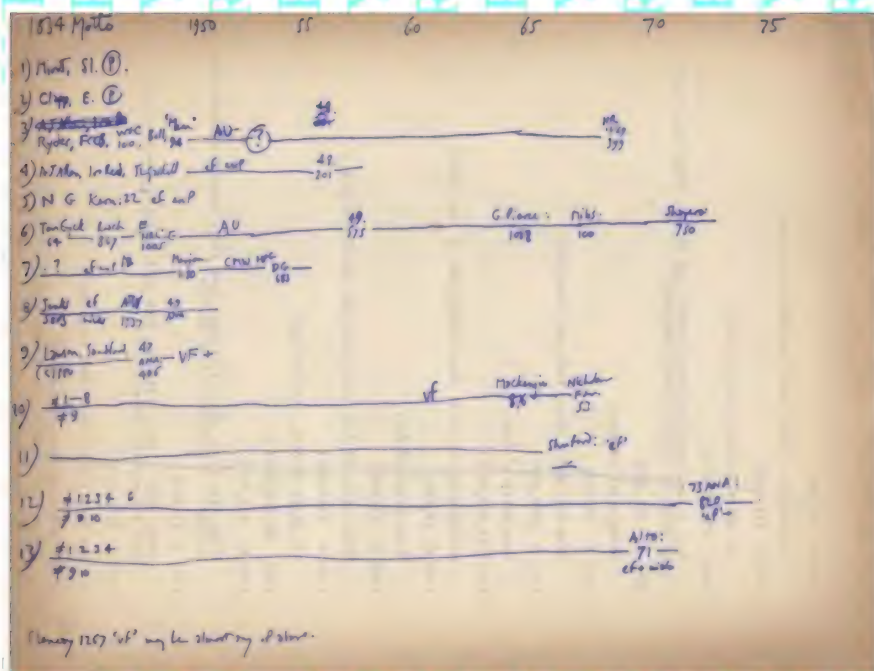
See Bibliography below.

NN 47:1472 Two pieces both 1834 types.

Which is J.H.Clapp from J.C.Randal 12/1895? to Eliasberg.

Janis-Breen Checklist ms. below.

The above B&W copy is superior to original color scan.



NB CV:18 King Ph'ra Nang Klao of Siam set.

T Iranian, bought t King of Siam Proof set & deslabbd it. [ill. floated where? see 1st ed.].

See also 1834 No Motto next volume.

Proof With Motto: [2+] Breen-Type I-1. 1830-3 rev. as used on business strikes & proofs in each year. 1) Adam Ekfeldt (1839), Mint, S.I.. 2) Clapp, Elisaberg. 3) A.J. Allen, Ira Reed, Gaskill, NN 48:201 EF ex Proof (cat. by Breen). 4) Newcomer, Green, Kern:22, impaired, not seen by Breen. The Siam set has a cutting for the coin but was empty. It may be lost or one of the above.

Proof No Motto. "Classic Head." [2+] Breen-II-1, state A. Small head, 4 is well away from curls, recuttings on bases of (T)E(S), O(F). See next.

See NB 93:9 above.

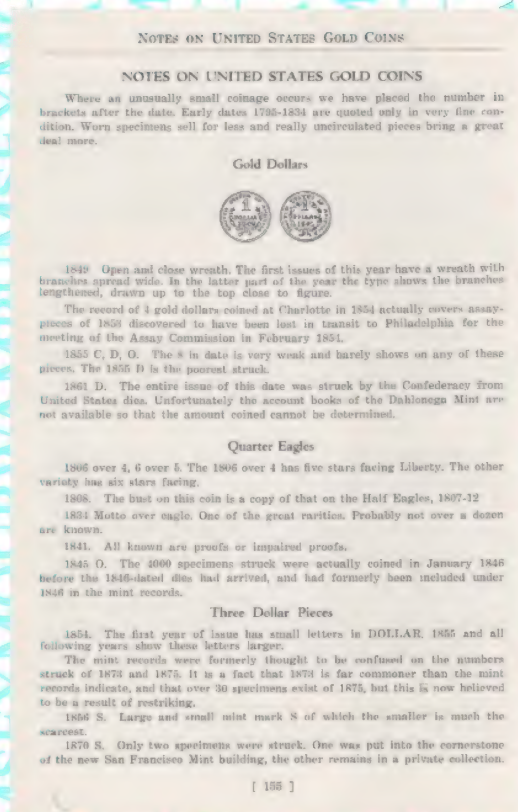
Nb 70:128 Vars. in 1834 Proof Set (King of Siam): NB 2:146.

Bibliography & Abbreviations

See complete Gold Bibliography of all denominations.

A-W = Adams and Woodin, William Hartman, U.S. Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces N.Y., ANS 1913.

United States Pattern, Experimental & Trial Pieces Third Edition J.Hewitt Judd M.D. 1965, 1959 Walter H. Breen Research. Abe Kosoff Valuation. Whitman Publishing Co. Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 62-1888.



Written/revised by Breen. Standard Catalogue. His copy.

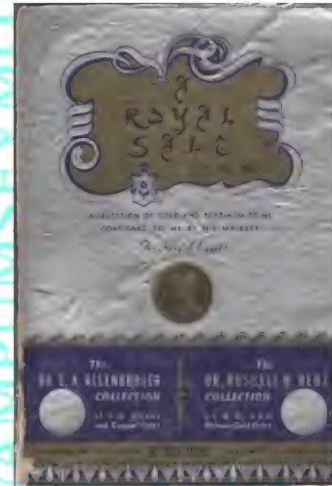
Bm 6/12/51: Rapoport - Field. (+ primer A on Alfred Wilbur.)
 42 429 31 (G1? G1?) on Neil P
 43 " 32 (G?)
 44 " 33 "
 45-6 34-5 "
 47 36 - (G1) on Neil
 49-50 41 LB, SB P
 51 42 SB P Neil, Rosch
 52 43 LB P Neil
 53 43 SB P
 54 46 LB P dull (G?)
 55 46 SB P Neil
 56,7 47 LB, SB
 58 48 SB
 59 49 SB SB P mid/nd.
 61 50 P
 62 51 P dull
 63 52 "LO" (oldest out of all)
 228 19 36 AE (H4 FG) on
 234 - " / oak + thick AE
 5 - nd w/ light AE P
 6-7-8 57-58-59 P
 296 24 64 sm P
 345 44 P
 350 48 P
 353 50 P R HL
 405 21 P
 422 72 P
 626 1 1/2 54 P R nd
 946 1 1/2 18 D/A U (Rapoport)
 986 54 P
 8,9 56,7 P HL R chr. fid
 1085 490 of
 1112 55 S U
 1123 78 S U
 1258-9 10 P 57-8 P
 1340 920 P P
 1365 71 S SP
 1374 85 S U
 1381 95 S P (Rapoport)
 1456 54 1862 4/ug: on Newman,
 Bm, Parly Locker, Allenbury, Rapoport
 1490 54 46 "u. w/ U"
 1496 60 45. U SP w/ G P (I have
 seen "L" at station Allenbury's)
 1517 54 440 w/ nd U
 1519 490 "stock w/ southern end of
 1521 510 SP
 1522 520 U
 1523 530 NA "u. w/ U"
 1531 600 P?
 1543 34 518 w/ nd P
 1544 710 P
 1545 12 SP
 1548 8 P
 1731 14 52 118/LW col Poll
 798 91A 61 P, 62 P
 1800 64 U
 5 73 P
 7-9 76-8 P
 33 61 D long round
 402 100 ft 1/2 k P
 43 09 L6C P
 1851 2 1/2 97 SP 2 o. d. l. J.B. 53rd
 54 '6/4' Oak L18 Au
 55 '6/4' ck on L18 Au
 57-8 29/1.5 U Au
 59-60 25, 7 U
 63 31 U
 75 41 CAL U. SP
 94 75 dull P. w/ A U + SP
 1902 1 83, 5 P
 1957 63 S U
 1962 68, 75, 72 S U
 1986 3 63 P, 64 P
 2025 25 121 U
 27 25/1 U

Catalogs

See gold catalog list.

See also below.

BMM "Farouk" 3/23/1948 Lot 296 1798 page 34. Descriptions are used with extreme caution due to BMM's honesty.



BMM A. Carter 10/55: .

California State Numismatic Assoc. (27th) Oct., 1960.



U. S. \$2.50 GOLD PIECES		
853	1796 First Year and First Type without Stars. This is an Extremely Fine coin, free from nicks and scratches and showing but slight wear. However, highest point of head and shield on the Reverse shows file or weight adjustment marks. A very RARE coin and in great demand! Should realize in excess of.....	2100-2150 2500.00

854	1796 Second Variety - 16 Stars on Obverse. Very Fine. A well struck specimen showing very little wear. Coin has a very fine evenly pitted surface. Excessively RARE! Should realize	1600-1650 2000.00

855	1807 Liberty Cap \$2.50 Gold Piece. A well struck Very Fine Specimen. Worth	400-450 550.00

856	1808 First Year and Only issue of its kind with Large Bust to the Left. An Extremely Fine coin with a very lite rim nick at 3rd Star on the Obverse. Reverse has faint hairline scratches in field over Eagle's Head. However, these are minute as the coin shows very little wear. EXTREMELY RARE!	1/11 2500.00

857	1836 Bust Type \$2.50 - Very Fine.....	25 27.50
858	1851 Liberty \$2.50 - Fine	17.00
859	1898 Liberty \$2.50 - Brilliant, Uncirculated.....	40.00
860	1904 Liberty \$2.50 - Uncirculated.....	35.00
861	1911 P Indian Head \$2.50 - Very Fine.....	16.50
862	1911 D Indian Head \$2.50 - Brilliant, Uncirculated with wire edge on Obverse and Reverse. RARE! Worth full catalogue of	200-225 250.00
863	1912 P Indian Head \$2.50 - Brilliant, Uncirculated.....	24.00
864	1912 P Indian Head \$2.50 - Extremely Fine.....	20.00
865	1913 Indian Head \$2.50 - Extremely Fine.....	20.00
866	1914 D Indian Head \$2.50 - Extremely Fine.....	24.00

Annotations by W.Breen.

S(tack's) Smith

(May) 5/1955:..



U. S. QUARTER EAGLES (\$2.50 GOLD)

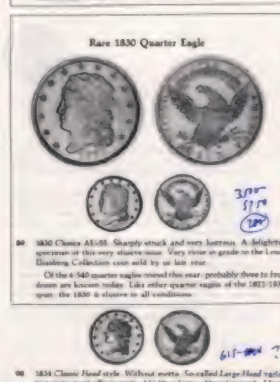
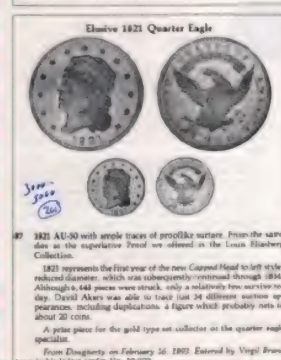
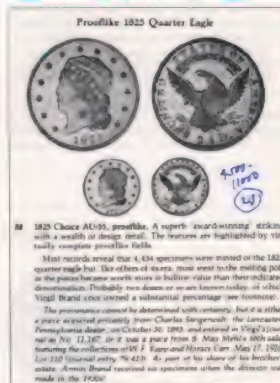
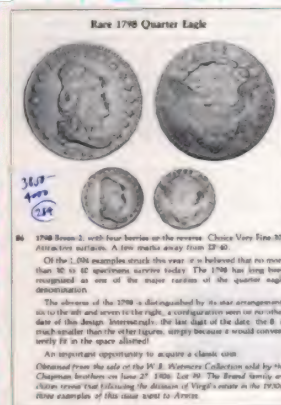
- 425 1485 1796 First year of issue, this is the only type that has no stars on Obverse. This coin is in great demand by the "Type Gold Collector" as well the date Collector. Extremely Fine, with some mint lustre. The Davis Graves Specimen realized \$575.00. Very Rare. **PLATE**
- 500 alt F/ve 1486 1797 With the usual die crack, from "Y" in Liberty to the last 2 Stars. The Davis Graves coin realized \$325.00 in the same condition. ~~Extremely~~ Fine. Very Rare. **PLATE**
- 200 325 1487 1798 This is the only variety that has 6 Stars behind head and 7 in front. About ~~Extremely~~ Fine. Rare. **PLATE**
- 150 200 1488 1802 Has the faintest trace of friction on obverse. Otherwise it would be Uncirculated. Now ~~Extremely~~ Fine. **PLATE**
- 75 90 1489 1804 a beautiful sharp strike and perfect centering full mint lustre. About Uncirculated. **PLATE** 14th
- 105 150 1490 1805 Very Fine and Sharp. Very Scarce. **PLATE**
- 65 70

—66—

THE RARE 1808 QUARTER EAGLE

- 50 1491 1805 has a faint edge dent behind head and also a scratch in hair. Very Fine. Very Scarce
- 100 1492 1806 over 4, worn evenly. ~~Strictly Very~~ Fine. Very Scarce. **PLATE** 845
- 30 1493 1807 The last of the Liberty cap variety. ~~Strictly~~ Fine. Very Sharp
- 250 1494 1808, this is needed by the type and date collector. Known as the "Turban head" facing left. There is faint scratches of "E and I" in front of face. (hardly noticeable), has been somewhat cleaned, does not show any wear. Extremely Fine. Very Rare. **PLATE** 210 107 110 400-410 20 90.50, 500
- 150 1495 1821 New Type, reduced in size. This is a Brilliant Proof Coin. **PLATE**
- 250 1496 1824 over 21. Formerly Proof, but mishandled. Now ~~Extremely~~ Fine. **PLATE**
- 1497 1825 About Very Fine, worn evenly. Still very Sharp. **PLATE** 65
- 1498 1826 over 25, larger stars than above. ~~Extremely~~ Fine. A most difficult coin to get. Rare. **PLATE** 200
- 1499 1827 has minute faint lines in front of face. Uncirculated and Rare. **PLATE**
- 1500 1829 A Choice Very Fine Coin. **PLATE** 50
- 1501 1830 has a faint dent on edge near the 3rd star. Uncirculated with Proof surface and high wire edge. **PLATE** 50 65
- 1502 1831 Brilliant ~~Proof~~, full lustre and high wire edge. A Choice coin. Rare in this condition. **PLATE** 1st strike 90 110
- 1503 1832 ~~Extremely~~ Fine. **PLATE** 50
- 1504 1833 Brilliant Uncirculated full mint lustre. A Gem. **PLATE**
- 1505 1834 New type. Without Motto. Very Fine 82.
- 1506 1834 Very Fine
- 1507 1835 Very Fine

V.Brand Collection. B&R Nov. 1983. PR's by Breen.



A. Kriesberg, H. Schulman, auction April, 1959.



- 646 Original heavy bronze medal by J. Paulus (Giampolo) 1946 in Rome of Eisenhower as General of NATO. Beautiful patina. This medal unknown. 3 3/4". EF. RARE. (50.00)
- J.J.F. #1*
- HITLER MEDALS**
(All silver dollar size)
- 647 30 Jan. 1933. Bust l, rev: Eagle in Swastika. GEMEINNUTZ VOR EIGENNUTZ. Bronze. VF. (35.00)
- 647A Undated. Bust l, rev: DU BIST NICHTS DEIN VOLK IST ALLES. Swastika below. Silver. UNC. (50.00)
- 648 1933. Bust r., REICHS KANZLER. ADOLF HITLER. rev: Eagle on swastika with date on neck EIN VOLK - EIN REICH - EIN FUEHRER. Inner inscription 30 JANUAR - 5 MAERZ - 21 MAERZ 12 NOVEMBER. Silver. Extr. F. (40.00)
- 649 1938. Bust r., DER EINER UND FUEHRER ALLER DEUTSCHEN. rev: Cross on Reichsapfel. DAS GROSSDEUTSCHE REICH IST ERSTANDEN. 13-3. 1938 29.9. 1938. Silver. Extr. F. (40.00)
- 650 Porcelain medal 1939 commemorating Hitler's 50th anniversary. His head l. Rv. Plain, in lower part two crossed swords, the sign of the porcelain factory at Meissen. 36mm. Red. Unc. (15.00)
- 651 Porcelain medal showing bust of the young Hitler facing, in civil clothes, as he was looking like in 1924. Rv. Inscription. 40mm, pmk, work of the famous porcelain factory at Meissen. Unc. (15.00)
- JOH. FUHRER NICHT ALS
DEUTSCHER, O.E.*
- 40 MAIL YOUR BIDS EARLY
- top 55*

QUARTER EAGLES

- 2599 1798 Extremely rare, five berries upon olive branch. Very seldom offered. Lustrous almost extremely fine. Worth (600.00) PLATE *mf*
- 2600 1802 over 1. Almost Very Fine. Greatly in demand and undercatalogued. Currently selling for almost (300.00) *~*
- 2601 1805 Considerable mint lustre. Sharp. Extremely fine. Worth at least (350.00) *✓*
- 2602 1807 Choice extremely fine. Lustrous. Worth (275.00) *✓*
- 2603 1829 Considerable proof surface. Very rare type coin. There is no catalogue value placed on these early gems. Worth (350.00) PLATE *—*
- 2604 1838 Very Fine. *—*
- 2605 1839-C Mint mark obverse. Die breaks on reverse. Extremely Fine. Rare. Worth (60.00) *with side*
- 2606 1839-D Mintmark obverse. Sharp. Very Fine. Scarce type coin worth (60.00) *rdg*
- 2607 1839-O A type coin, with mint mark on obverse. Quite scarce. Very Fine. Worth at least (35.00) *—*
- 2608 1840-O Very Fine plus.
- 2609 1843-D Extremely Fine. Scarce (39.50) *SD —*
- 2610 1844-D Brilliant Uncirculated. Rare. So choice (75.00) *—*
- 2611 1846-D Extremely Fine. Scarce (50.00) *vt*
- 2612 1847-C About Uncirculated (55.00) *Nicked up*
- 2613 1850-C Consistently selling for over catalog value. Sharp. Very Fine. Worth (50.00)
- 2614 1860-C Last year of Charlotte mint quarter eagles. Extremely Fine and Rare. Worth at least (65.00) *vt*
- 2615 1875 Proof. Extremely rare. Total mintage 420. This is not the nicest of the 20 Proofs struck. Some hairlines in field, however, it is so valuable and so seldom offered we estimate it will sell for over (500.00) *—*
- 2616 1877 Proof. Only 20 struck. Some hairlines in field. A scarce date. Catalogs (240.00)
- 2617 1877-S Choice About Uncirculated (30.00)
- 2618 1882 Proof. 40 struck. Hairlines. Scarce (150.00) *?*
- 2619 1883 Scarce. About Uncirculated (75.00) *2*
- 2620 1884 Brilliant Proof. 43 issued. Very scarce. Few hairlines. Worth (200.00) *lw*
- 2621 1884 Scarce. Brilliant Uncirculated. Less than 2000 struck. Sells for over Catalog (95.00) *not for*
- 2622 1885 Choice about Uncirculated. Very scarce (175.00) *—*

160

MAIL YOUR BIDS EARLY

After bid = 1879 Feb 1900 —

PUBLIC COIN AUCTION

**Part III
February 14, 1977**

**John A. Beck
Collection of Rare Coins
by Trust Division
Pittsburgh National Bank
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**



**ABNER KREISBERG
CORPORATION
Beverly Hills, CA.**

PCA III "Beck" 2/14/1977. Walter Breen's annotated copy.

EYMO
 JRWA
 PUMS
 EYMO
 JRWA
 PUMS
 EYMO
 JRWA
 PUMS
 EYMO
 JRWA
 PUMS
 EYMO

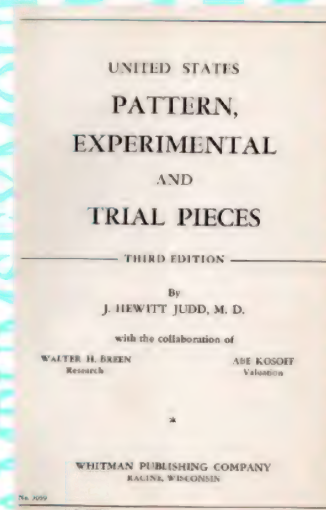
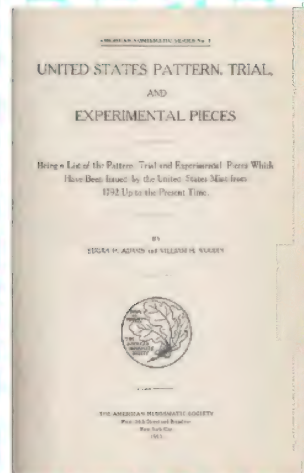
$$\begin{aligned} 11 &= V \\ 4 &= 7 \\ 7 &= 21 \\ 2 &= 20 \end{aligned}$$
$$N_2 = N_{31} = N_{12} = 78 = 28 = 2N_1$$

Mr. Wormser suggested to me that a letter be written to Louis Eliasberg, formally accepting his offer, and requesting information as to the date when he wishes to have me down in Baltimore after January 1, 1953. This letter has been drafted and will be sent this week. I probably will be unable to get to Baltimore before Jan. 1, but will be free from then on, my arrival depending entirely on Mr. Eliasberg's desires.

SEYMOUR WAMPUMS
URWAMPUNSEYMOI
MPUM
EYMO
URWAMPUNSEYMOI
MPUMS

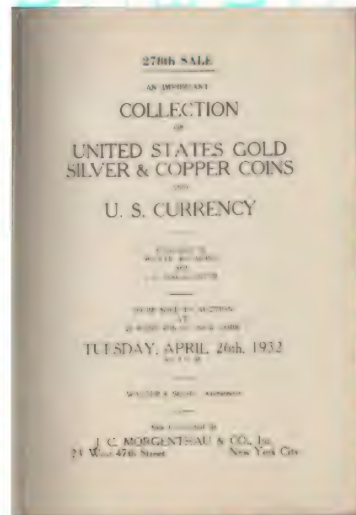
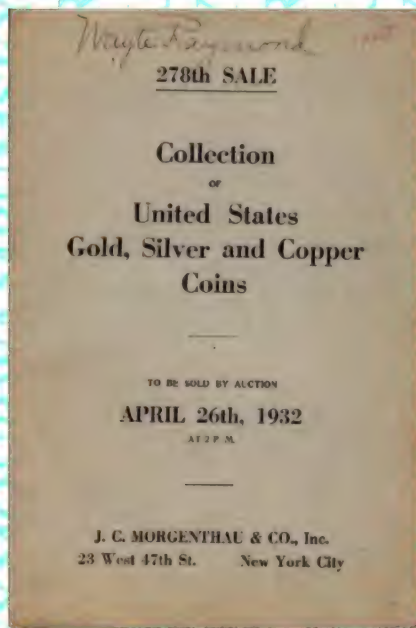
Bibliography

See gold Bibliography.



A-W above Ex. Libras Walter Breen.
Rewritten 4th Edition by Walter Breen.

J.C. Morgenthau & Co. 278th sale 4/26/1932 Wayte Raymond's copy.



QUARTER EAGLES.			
50-	213	1796 Variety without stars on Obv. Ex. Fine. V. Rare.	
65-	214	1796 Variety with stars on obv. Very Fine. Light scratch on obverse below bust. Extremely Rare.	
25-	215	1802 Extremely Fine. Very scarce.	
12-	216	1807 Very Fine.	
105-	217	1827 Extremely Fine, about Unc. Beautiful sharp impression. Ex. Rare.	
35-	218	1829 Very Fine. Rare.	
25-	219	1832 Ex. Fine. Very scarce.	

Ex. FCC Boyd, WB, BV; W. Raymond recorded Prices Realized. This writing matches other catalogues; there is some on page 20-1 that is probably FCCB's.

Auc '85 NB 56:164-5 below.

114

Auc 85: 923 - MCMV, V. 1000, K. 1000
 7/25/85 S - NEAL - \$260,000
 1804 13* 923 "ef-ou" 1000
 1349 \$19,000 + 1000
 2785 254 (Impart) : 677 \$19,000 + 1000
 : 678 \$8,000 + 1000
 1797 244 no die long, 1/2 ex long 1000
 : 754 \$42,000 +
 1874 514 (B) 60 : ex E
 : 918 - \$9,000
 48 00 10 : 923 ex E \$42,000 +
 75 244 923 " " 17,500 +
 50 00 3 4 E : 934 29,000 +
 75 " " 100 : 936 9,000 +
 20 10 15 Bure 1/4 94 9,500 +
 57 00 " E : 948 38,000 +
 58 10 40 " ? : 918 55,000
 60 U E : 959 23,000
 80 00 2 10 : 963 4,000
 " " F : 964 1,000
 07 10 1000 : 967 16,000
 968 38,000
 969 38,000
 970 38,000

9221

1304

AV 205

AV

560

165

520 560 of 974 25,500 +
 " 75 00 E 978 42,000 +
 " 93 " E 980 62,000 +
 " 81 " E 981 58,000 +
 21 U 989 10,000 +
 Kelly 1000 995 72,500 +
 51 1000 1000 1000 26,000 +
 51 XH 1000 1000 1000 26,000 +
 7100 1000 1000 1000 12,000 +
 51 1000 1000 1000 10,500 +
 705 1000 1000 1000 32,000 +
 22 1000 1000 1000 34,000 +
 56 00 1000 1000 11,500 +
 61 00 1000 1000 7,000 +
 41 2 1000 1000 11,500
 20 5 1000 1000 21,000
 20 5 1000 1000 10,000
 29 20 1000 1000 10,000
 1000 1000 1000 1000 9,000

U.S. Mint in Phila. closed for Yellow Fever, dates.

5/19 Mint closed for 1796-7
CENT BK yellow fever. 97- 9/1-11/9 } 15
check RWT. 98 8/20-11/1 } money.
99 9/20-11/1 }

NB 66:114

See Numisma #1.

Honest turned dishonest.

Approximately, since early 1950s, ^{too} ~~many~~ ^{XXB} ~~of~~ ⁴⁵ ~~dealers~~ ^{F&B} I've worked for
 have proved to be dishonest, & it is a
 miracle that my own honesty was never
 impugned in 1950s "Smith by assoc-
 iation" principle. "Fools rush in where
 wise men fear to tread."
 J balance sheet:

Honest	Dishonest
WR	CSR/M
Warriner	F
ANS	S (Mutton & Jaidbird)
Dr V. C. F.	QDB Melnick (PTAC)
Worfield	DILWETT Superior
Huttler (?)	[And at least 20 for whom I've checked certificates]
Dean Osler	CW
Sillio	JC Toxay
JC	Barons K's
SA	

budget for Beacon & Lind &
 Desmond Morris Monstrous
 Money - Love & Lauchlin
 Paris: Parole Therapy Nov 1
 Pflaum Dehydration
 Mansfield, Isaac: Septal War
 Bonavita, Isaac: Red Maple (1979 ed.)
 PT Love & Lynerence

The Standard Catalogue of United States Coins {1957}. Walter Breen's annotated copy.

UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

The first issues of these conformed exactly to the specifications of the Mint Act of April 1792, as did their silver counterparts. None bore any mark of denomination before 1807. These, like most of the earliest Mint issues, have their classical counterpart as far as design is concerned. The verification for this has been recently found in an unexpected quarter. The reverse of the eagle and half-eagle of 1795 shows a naturalistic eagle standing on a palm branch and holding a wreath of laurel in his beak; the original of this design is a Roman (First Century B.C., matching the famous Gemma Augustea) onyx cameo, No. 166 in the Vienna Collections, No. 4 in Eichler-Kris's catalogue of the antique cameos in the Kunsthistorisches Museum at Vienna. This shows the eagle standing to right, but in attributes and workmanship bears a remarkable resemblance to the 1795 die. Later gold dies are less imaginative, simply following the model of the silver coins almost exactly.

Coinage was very limited in the early years for all denominations except half-eagles. No eagles were coined between 1805 and 1837 inclusive, apparently because of exportation. Quarter-eagles were coined only in small quantities at infrequent intervals, on demand. Even the half-eagles, which for long constituted the Mint's major output along with silver half-dollars and copper cents, belie their coinage records in that many dates are extremely rare. The explanation for all this is believed to lie in the fact that many millions of dollars in pre-1834 gold were returned to the Mint after that time and recoined, being worth more than face value. \$100 face in old-style gold was worth over \$106 in new style gold, and unworn specimens in the aggregate would exceed this premium.

Proof gold coinage began around 1821, that being with one exception the earliest date we find. The Mint Cabinet contains both the \$5 and \$2.50 of this year in proof, also 1824 and most later dates except 1849-53 inclusive. The exception mentioned is the 1804 eagle with plain 4 in date, and otherwise differing considerably from the single variety of the regular issue. There are two proofs in gold of this and about five in silver (AW23); no record of them exists before 1869, and as early as 1911 the opinion was voiced that these are restrikes. No real proofs could have been made before 1817, that being the year in which the Mint acquired its hydraulic press and struck off the first proof cents and half-dollars. Of proof gold the majority of issues before 1880 are very rare; some issues, such as the 1841 quarter-eagle, 1863 quarter-eagle, 1883-4 double eagles, and the well-known three-dollar pieces, are found only in proof or impaired proof condition.

The 1848 quarter-eagles with CAL over the eagle are properly experimental pieces. The alloy is not that authorized by the Government. The U.S. standard since 1837 was (per thousand) 900 parts gold, 33 to 50 parts silver, 67 to 50 parts copper. The alloy of California gold, and thus of these quarter-eagles, is approximately 888 parts gold to 108 parts silver to 4 parts of various other metals. It is easily distinguishable by its brassy color. The CAL stamped on the quarter-eagles was evidently done while each coin was in the die, as Proskey says; the letters were put in with a punch, and were stamped in by hand, as their placement differs somewhat on different coins. One or two are reported in brilliant proof condition.

This is not the only instance of unconventional gold alloys being used by the Mint, for experimental purposes. In the early thirties the Director submitted to a Congressional committee a half-dozen pieces of the same \$2.50 denomination, struck in (1) pure gold, (2) 900 gold 100 silver, (3) 900 gold 100 copper, (4) 900 gold 33 silver 67 copper, (5) 900 gold 50 silver 50 copper, (6) 900 gold 67 silver 33 copper. These pieces were marked above the eagle by small punch-marks. The idea was for the Congressmen to decide among them and to authorize a mixture of silver and copper to be used in the alloy of gold coins to give them a good color. This was authorized in Section 8 of the Mint Act of 1837, some five years after the experiments took place.

A similar experimental alloy was used in the 1836 pattern gold dollars by Gobrecht. A few of these were struck in gold with silver alloy, and some more were made in the standard gold (AW50). Though Archives records are lacking, it would seem that these coins and this denomination were intended for the con-

UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

sideration of Congressional committees who were then preparing the Mint Act of January 1837, mentioned above. This denomination was the first one authorized beyond the original three of the 1792 Mint Act, in any event. Longacre's designs were accepted, however, instead of the Mint's using the Gobrecht dies which were already at hand. (The Coiner used them to make a three-cent silver pattern in 1850.)

For the various types of heads on the 1849 gold dollars, see under "Notes."

The first gold dollars coined in 1873 (both Unc. and Proofs) have an almost closed 3 resembling an 8 and they have sometimes been mistakenly sold as 1878's. The Coiner complained to the Director about the closed 3 and subsequent dies have a more conventional open 3. The closed type is about six times as scarce as the open 3.

Many brass counterfeits (and some in other metals) of the gold dollars, and quite a number of \$2½ and \$5 in other metals including silver, are found and offered as "trial pieces". Several of these are listed in Adams-Woodin, and bear dates between about 1843 and 1861. No alleged trialpiece should be accepted unless in proof condition and unless the die work matches the genuine perfectly.

The other denomination authorized at the same time as the gold dollar, namely the double eagle, has an extremely complicated and interesting history, which we can only briefly allude to here. The first dies Longacre made were disapproved by the Coiner as being of too high relief; the first trials were made Dec. 22, 1849, upon which occasion the dies are said to have broken. Longacre then prepared, with the help of an unnamed engraver from New York, a second and third set of master dies. The first trials in base metal were taken January 12, 1850, and the first few gold (and one silver) strikes January 26, 1850; the same complaint was revived, and these dies (undated) were not used for the authorized coinage beginning in March 1850, but the third set was. By this time Longacre was at his wit's end. The preceding January, on account of much public reproach at not obtaining the double-eagles, Longacre was threatened with the loss of his job; C. C. Wright had already been approached for the Engravership and had accepted. Longacre retained his post only by rushing to Washington and enlisting some political assistance. By 1854 the whole incident ended with the Coiner's dismissal. One mystery is: what happened to the other 1849 double-eagles besides the Mint specimen? One was sent to the Secretary of the Treasury, and several were retained by the Director and the Coiner. Moreover, the Mint specimen was not from the first die, as it is not in high relief and will stack perfectly, which was the complaint against Longacre's first two attempts; they would not. Thus either the Coiner was lying, or the '1849' was made in 1850.

In 1861 a reverse die made by A. C. Paquet was accepted for regular use on the double eagle. Its distinctive feature is tall narrow lettering. The die is found on two coins from the Philadelphia mint (and on a few patterns dated 1859-60), and on a few S mint examples. The die was found unsuitable after these coins had been struck at Philadelphia and the Director sent orders to the branch mints countermanding its use. This order did not reach the San Francisco mint until after 19,250 pieces had been struck and released.

The other new denomination, rivaling the half-eagles of the 1820's and the double-eagles of the 1880's for the number of rarities, is the three-dollar piece. Fifteen proofs of the design later adopted were struck in April 1854 for presentation purposes. All the coins of 1854 and no later ones have small letters in DOLLAR. Proofs exist of all years through 1889, and at least two dates (1873 and 1875) were certainly restruck, accounting for the sizable excess of number extant over number originally struck and reported.

There are, unfortunately, no references at present which give much useful information, either on die varieties or anything else, for the gold coinages. Adams published a very incomplete list of die varieties of the eagles and half-eagles 1795-1804 in the 1934 Coin Collector's Journal, but many more varieties than he knew of have been recorded.

NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

Where an unusually small coinage occurs we have placed the number in brackets after the date. Early dates 1795-1834 are quoted only in very fine condition. Worn specimens sell for less and really uncirculated pieces bring a great deal more.

Gold Dollars



1849 Type I. Small head, without L on truncation. Open wreath. Coronet point midway between two stars. Very rare.

1849 Type II. Small head, with L on truncation. Open wreath. Head placed as last. Scarce.

1849 Type III. Large head, with L on truncation. Open wreath. Coronet point nearer star immediately right of it. Common.

1849 Type IV. Large head as last. Closed wreath (see below). Common. Also known with a recut date.

1849. Open and closed wreath. The first issues of this year have a wreath with branches spread wide. In the latter part of the year the type shows the branches lengthened, drawn up to the top close to figure.

The record of four gold dollars coined at Charlotte in 1854 actually covers assay pieces of 1853 discovered to have been lost in transit to Philadelphia for the meeting of the Assay Commission in February 1854.

1855 C, D, O. The S in date is very weak and barely shows on any of these pieces. The 1855 D is the poorest struck.

1861 D. The entire issue of this date was struck by the Confederacy from United States dies. Unfortunately the account books of the Dahlonega Mint are not available so that the amount coined cannot be determined.

Quarter Eagles

1806 over 4, 6 over 5. The 1806 over 4 has five stars facing Liberty. The other variety has six stars facing.

1808. The bust on this coin is a copy of that on the Half Eagles, 1807-12.

1834 Motto over eagle. One of the great rarities. Probably not over a dozen are known.

1841. All known are proofs or impaired proofs.

1845 O. The 4000 specimens struck were actually coined in January 1846 before the 1846-dated dies had arrived, and had formerly been included under 1846 in the mint records.

Three Dollar Pieces

1854. The first year of issue has small letters in DOLLAR. 1855 and all following years show these letters larger.

The mint records were formerly thought to be confused on the numbers struck of 1873 and 1875. It is a fact that 1873 is far commoner than the mint records indicate, and that over 30 specimens exist of 1875, but this has been established to be a result of restriking.

1856 S. Large and small mint mark S of which the smaller is much the scarcest.

1870 S. Only two specimens were struck. One was put into the cornerstone of the new San Francisco Mint building, the other remains in a private collection.

NOTES ON UNITED STATES GOLD COINS

Half Eagles

The many great rarities in this series would make a story by themselves. Only a very small number of specimens are known of such dates as 1798 small eagle, 1815, 1819, 1821, 1822, 1824, 1827-8-9, 1832.

1795 Heraldic eagle. This coin is believed to have been an unintentional restrike, made in 1797 or 1798. The number of stars above the eagle proves that this could not have preceded the admission of Tennessee in June 1796.

1822. Only three specimens are known of this coin, one being in the U.S. Mint collection.

1825 over 4. The only one yet traced is the brilliant proof in the Eliasberg collection.

1832. Curled 2, 12 stars. *One of the rarest coins.* The editor knows of only five pieces, two of which are in museums.

1841 O. Only two reported, only one seen (Col. Green, Farouk). Reverse of 1840 O.

1916. We have seen one or two coins of this date evidently of the Philadelphia mint but are not convinced they are not S mint coins poorly struck so that S does not show.

Eagles

The demand for the first types 1795 to 1804 continues unabated. Prices seem well stabilized. We have given a valuation on the dates 1838 to 1854 only in very fine condition as uncirculated specimens are rarely met with and those of a lesser grade seldom collected.

1804. Plain 4, proof. See under restriks.

1907 St. Gaudens. This design has as interesting varieties as the double eagles, the two following really being patterns but generally accepted as part of a collection of eagles. Of the variety with periods and rolled edge only 42 were struck, while the same variety with sharp wire edge is said to have been coined to the extent of 500 pieces. Two of each were melted during Mint experiments.

The St. Gaudens type eagle has 46 stars on edge, 1907-1911. From 1912 to 1933 there are 48 stars.

The 1933 eagle remains a rare piece, even though several new specimens were recently reported discovered.

Double Eagles

Twenty Dollar pieces of the 19th century are very unusual in really uncirculated condition. These coins were made to use and are usually nicked and scratched by rubbing against one another in bags.

1854. Large date as on the silver dollar. Small date as on the cent.

1861 Paquet reverse. Two struck (Unc., not proof) at Philadelphia, Jan. 5, 1861, at which time the Director discovered that the reverse die was too wide, the borders too narrow. He immediately countermanded any further use of the design.

1861 S. Paquet reverse. There were 1250 of this type struck and released before the order from the Philadelphia Mint belatedly reached San Francisco forbidding the use of this reverse. These coins are now very rare. That they actually circulated is shown from the fact that the first one published (1937) came from a hoard in Hull, Texas.

1907 St. Gaudens. Roman numerals. The wire edge is not an intentional variant, unlike that on the eagles of this date, but instead a result of the collar giving way.

The St. Gaudens type produced in 1907 brought forth a number of interesting varieties including several patterns. Some of the dates after 1916 are of distinct rarity, especially some of the branch mints. All specimens of the 1933 coin have finally been returned to the Treasury Department by the U.S. Secret Service on the ground that they were not legally released by the mint.

The St. Gaudens double-eagle has 46 stars on obverse, 1907-1911. From 1912 to 1933 there are 48 stars on obverse.

2-10-1880
Reho. — Do in colored paper.

UNITED STATES PROOF COINS

The introduction of this new feature in the catalogue is designed to point up the fact that, like both patterns and commemorative coins, United States proofs from dies of the regular types constitute a distinctive series entirely separate from the regular issue for circulation. Proofs, strictly speaking, are impressions from highly polished dies on polished planchets (except for the period 1908-16 when so-called mat (matte) or sandblast proofs were made, following the fashion introduced by the Paris Mint), never intended as circulating currency. They were 'polished-up portraits' of the coinage types, struck since 1817 for presentation to prominent officials or foreign dignitaries, and since 1858 also for sale to collectors at a premium. Though legal tender, just as are commemoratives, they were never counted as circulating coinage, and this fact is substantiated by the Bullion Journals and other official accounts of Mint coinage transactions. These contemporaneous accounts leave no room for doubt that proofs (at least before 1862-8) were, with the single exception of the Gobrecht Dollars, never included in reported coinage figures. Neither the gold and silver bullion nor copper planchets figured in the records. And after proofs began to be included with regular coinage in the Director's Reports in the sixties, the Coiner's accounts of proofs were still kept and submitted separately, with the medal accounts, to the authorities. This practice is known to have held at least through 1880, and its continuance for so many years strongly emphasizes the fact that proofs definitely form no part of regular coinage, but are a separate series altogether.

Up to the present time, with very few exceptions, the values attached to proof coins have not taken this fact into account. Such values have ordinarily been derived from the largeness or smallness of the regular coinage for circulation, whereas strictly speaking the rarities of uncirculated and of proof coins of the same date and denomination are independent, and the prices consequently should be also. Take for example the three-dollar goldpieces. Because of allegedly small reported coinages, 1873 and 1875-76 bring extremely high prices in proof; while dates such as 1855-6-7 and 1874, which are much more rare as proofs, bring far less simply because of larger quantities of coins reported for circulation. The double eagles in the 1880's are even more to the point. And in many other series proofs are twenty to 100 times commoner than uncirculated examples, particularly in the 1870's and 1880's; for example the three-cent nickels and half dollars between 1882 and 1887. The survival of mint state specimens is largely a matter of good fortune, whereas proofs were struck in fairly large numbers and most turn up frequently—at higher prices than the rarely seen uncirculated examples. We anticipate that this illegal situation will gradually correct itself when the correct relative rarities become known.

For all these reasons and others, it is expected that in future proofs, due to their greatly enhanced value, will be to a greater extent collected as an individual group independent of circulated and uncirculated coins of the same types, just as commemoratives are collected as a series by themselves and not mixed up with half-dollars of regular issue. This manner of collecting becomes more significant when one realizes that the rarities among a series of proofs are entirely different dates and types than the rarities among the corresponding series of coins struck for circulation, and that many dates coined in proof do not exist in specimens struck for circulation, or vice versa. In a set of proof dimes, for instance, the great rarities would be dates like 1820, 1824, 1833, 1841, 1849-53—all of these far from rare in ordinary condition; while dates like 1879-81 are rarely offered in any other condition but proof.

The commonly published statement that proofs were struck only in Philadelphia has a few authentic exceptions. The genuine proofs from the branch mints are separately tabulated. All of them are of extreme rarity.

Although we have a fairly complete account of the dates and denominations of proofs struck between 1817 and 1854, we are not pricing them in the present catalogue for several reasons. First, most of these (except half-cents and silver dollars in the 1840's) are so rare that sales of any particular items do not occur often enough to establish a stable price. Second, the prices they do bring do not

Deceptive 'proofs'
misleadingly sold.

[157]

1797 5¢ pr. 151
9¢ pr.

very rare
with great
fine lines

Value
dime
rare
condition
Proof
rare
condition
very
rare
chocolate
to
demand
to a mint
of the
(rarely)

UNITED STATES PROOF COINS

adequately reflect the relative rarities in each series, for the same reasons as were mentioned before in connection with the three-dollar pieces. Third, there still remain some problems connected with restriking in this group. Evidence continues to turn up that many dates and denominations of proofs were restruck in the 1860's, some from the original dies, others from new ones manufactured for the occasion. Obviously these belong neither here nor among the regular issues, but instead in the section devoted to restrikes.

With regard to early proofs, it is true that we find specimens of the silver coinage of 1796, and of some other issues of the period, with brilliant prooflike surfaces. Nevertheless, proofs in the true sense of the word were not struck until 1817. Facilities for their manufacture came to the Mint as part of the general renovation and improvement of machinery following the Mint fire of 1816, and in the next year some cents and half-dollars were struck in proof. For the twenty- or thirty-odd years following 1817, so far as is known, the Mint struck all or practically all its proofs in sets, and these sets were intended for presentation to visiting politicians and foreign dignitaries, mints or museums. In 1834, for example, the State Department ordered two complete sets of the year to be prepared, put in special caskets and sent to the Imam of Muscat and the King of Siam; and sporadic similar orders—rarely more than two or three per year—followed in subsequent years. The important exceptions to the above statement about proof distribution are the handling of the Gobrecht Dollars, which are really patterns, and the report that Mickley obtained four proof quarter dollars of 1827 from the Mint in that year for face value.

There is no unequivocal record of the Mint's having sold sets or individual proofs to private collectors before 1858. Recipients were charged face value plus \$3 for the casket plus eight cents for proofing—this latter charge was even levied on the Mint Cabinet for proof sets in the 1860's. Both the first public sale of proof sets at a premium (\$3 for the silver-minor set, \$46 for the set with the gold) and the very name of *proofs* are the work of Col. James Ross Snowden, 1858. The name and the premium (gradually increased) have continued to the present day except for 1917-35 inclusive, 1943-49 inclusive, the only proofs besides patterns struck in those years being 1921 dollars (both types), some commemoratives and a few other items. Minor proof sets or individual coins were nowhere accounted for in the Archives until the beginning of 1878. The conjecture that they had been previously struck to the same number as silver proof sets may be very likely correct; but no evidence exists.

Italicized values are due for a sharp rise or fall; *italicized dates* were coined only in proof; *italicized quantities* coined are reconstructions.

The French matte finish, with several minor variations, comes on Lincoln cents 1909-16, Buffalo nickels 1913-16, 1916 new type dime, quarter and half, 1908-12 gold. The sandblast finish comes on gold 1912-16 and 1921-22 Peace dollars as well as most commemoratives, 1921-36. Other coins have brilliant fields and unpolished high surfaces, like the 19th Century proofs. The late proofs since 1936 are almost uniformly mirrorlike.

ABSA:
M. Matte
SB. Sandblast
R.G. Roman
SM. Semi-matte or 1/2D. finish

As/c H.F.
to M. a
for 1950-58

Harry Bass Collection



\$2.50 U.S. Gold

Headings: Grp# = Case Group number. Ch = Coin number within Group. D/R = Side displayed. Breen# = Breen's Encyclopedia number (with alpha suffixes added).
Breen Var. = Breen Monograph designation of variety. Bass Variety = Variety designation (obverse - numeric, reverse - alpha, or first year used and reverse letter used in that year).

Page 1

Grp#	Ch	D/R	Year/MM	Breen#	Breen Var.	Bass Variety	Description
1	1	O	1796	6113A	Breen 3.	1(a)A	OBV. Full bottom curls. REV. Cracks !!.
1	2	R	1796	6113A	Breen 3.	1(a)A	OBV. Full bottom curls. REV. Cracks !!.
2	1	O	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(b)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Lapped. Bottom curls weak.
2	2	O	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(c)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Additional lapping. Bottom curls now strands. → 5
2	3	O	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(d)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Lapped. Bottom curls weak. PL
2	4	R	1796	6113B	Breen 1.	1(c)B	OBV. Weak crack in field at 9 o'clock. Additional lapping. Bottom curls are now strands. PL !!
3	1	O	1796WS	6114	Breen 2.	1A	OBV. 16 obv stars. Clashed O & P.
4	1	O	1797	6115	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Crack from !!!
5	1	O	1798	6116	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Close date. REV. 4 berries.
5	2	O	1798	6117	Breen 2.	2B	OBV. Wide date. REV. 8 berries.
6	1	O	1802/1	6118	Breen 1.	1B	OBV. Date repunched. REV. Spike shield to wing.
6	2	R	1802/1	6118	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Date repunched. REV. Leaf free of 1.
6	3	R	1802/1	6118	Breen 1.	1B	OBV. Date repunched. REV. Spike shield to wing.
6	4	R	1802/1	6118	Breen 1.	1B	OBV. Date repunched. REV. 1st star double punched. A abutts wing.
7	1	O	1804	6119	Breen 1.	1(a)B	OBV. No crack at 4 of date. REV. 14 stars.
7	2	R	1804	6120	Breen 1.	1(a)A	OBV. No crack at 4 of date. REV. 13 stars.
7	3	R	1804	6119	Breen 1.	1(c)B	OBV. Crack at 4 of date. REV. 14 stars.
8	1	O	1805	6121	Breen 1.	1A	REV. Star 11 repunched.
8	2	O	1806/5	6123	Breen 2.	1/1805A	OBV. Repunched die of 1805. REV. That of 1805 1A.
8	3	O	1806/4	6122	Breen 1.	2(b)/1805A	OBV. CUD at LIB! REV. That of 1805 1A.
8	4	O	1807	6124	Breen 1.	1(a)/1805A	OBV. No cracks evident! REV. That of 1805 1A.
8	5	R	1806/4	6122	Breen 1.	2(a)/1805A	OBV. Crack at LIB. REV. That of 1805 1A.
9	1	O	1808	6125	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Usual crack from cap thru stars right.
10	1	O	1821	6126	Breen 1.	1A	OBV. Scot's Capped Head. REV. This reverse reused in 1824 and 1825.
10	2	O	1824/1	6127	Breen 1.	1/1821A	Presentation strike! REV. That of 1821.
10	3	R	1824/1	6127	Breen 1.	1/1821A	OBV. Horn at slant of 4, possibly serif remnant of a 1. REV. That of 1821.
11	1	O	1825	6128	Breen 12.	1/1821A(a)	OBV. Top of 5 is thin. REV. That of 1821, double struck. 5 high
11	2	O	1825	6128	Breen 1.	2/1821A(a)	OBV. 5 repunched. REV. From 1821, not cracked.
11	3	R	1825	6128	Breen 1.	2/1821A(b)	OBV. 5 repunched. REV. From 1821, now cracked.
11	4	R	1825	6129	Breen 2.	2B	OBV. 5 repunched. REV. New, reused to 1826-7.
12	1	O	1826/5	6130	Breen 1.	1(a)/1825B-a	No Clashing. REV. That of 1825 2B.
12	2	O	1826/5	6130	Breen 1.	1(b)/1825B-b	OBV. Clashed. REV. That of 1825 2B, clashed.
12	3	O	1827	6131	Breen 1.	1/1825B-c	REV. That of 1825 2B, lapped after clashing in 1826.
12	4	R	1826/5	6130	Breen 1.	1(b)/1825B-b	OBV. Clashed. REV. That of 1825 2B, clashed.
13	1	O	1829	6132	Breen 1.	1A	-0-
13	2	R	1829	6132	Breen 1.	1A	Presentation strike??
14	1	O	1830	6133	Breen 1.	1A	REV. New die, used thru 1834 With Motto. Recut U.
14	2	O	1831	6134	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
14	3	O	1831	6134	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
14	4	O	1832	6135	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
14	5	R	1830	6133	Breen 1.	1A	REV. New die, used thru 1834 With Motto. Recut U.
15	1	O	1833	6136	Breen 1.	1/1830A	Proof. REV. That of 1830.
15	2	O	1833	6136	Breen 1.	1/1830A	REV. That of 1830.
15	3	O	1834MM	6137	Breen 1.	1/1830A	Impaired Proof? REV. That of 1830 A.
16	1	O	1834	6138	Breen 1.	1/1830A	Proof? OBV. Small head. REV. No recutting on E(S) or O(F), large arrowheads.
16	2	O	1834	6138	Breen 1.	1/1830A	OBV. Small head. REV. Large arrowheads.
16	3	R	1834	6138	Breen 1.	1/1830A	OBV. Small head. REV. Large arrowheads.
17	1	O	1834	6140	Breen 1.	1/1830A	OBV. Large 'Bobby' head. REV. Broken (A)W.
17	2	R	1834	6140	Breen 1.	1/1830A	OBV. Large head. REV. A H apart, split berry.
17	3	R	1834	6140	Breen 1.	1/1830A	OBV. Large head. REV. Broken W.
17	4	R	1834	6140	Breen 1.	1/1830A	OBV. Large head. REV. Top arrowhead large.

WB: Varieties of U. S. Quarter Eagles original ms.

NEW NEW VARIETIES OF UNITED STATES GOLD

by Walter Breen

When I first attempted to list the varieties of gold, I thought the subject would be pure caviar, interesting at most a dozen or fifteen readers, and stimulating little or no additional research even on their part. The results have been far otherwise. A surprising amount of correspondence has come my way from collectors interested in the various series (half eagles most of all), including descriptions of new varieties and new die states owned by them, and examination of some extremely rare coins has followed. The present study is an attempt to bring up to date the material now in print on the four lower denominations of gold. (Page references to follow, and all die variety numberings, allude to the four monographs in print: Major Varieties of U.S. Gold Dollars, Varieties of U.S. Quarter Eagles, Major Varieties of the U.S. Three Dollar Gold Pieces, and Early United States Half Eagles 1795-1838, ^{Numismatic} Hewitt/Information Series, 1964-66.) Cooperation of Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Leo A. Young, Lester Merkin, Stanley Kesselman, Marvin Talchert, Stephen Christy, and Harry Bass is greatly appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Other collectors who have helped out in smaller measure are too numerous to mention here, but I thank them one and all.

QUARTER EAGLES. 1796. A xerox copy of ~~a~~ one of the Edgar H. Adams notebooks, not earlier available to me and evidently of later date, gives different numbers and illustrates a new variety not otherwise known. As the photograph is a contact print presumably it is of a traceable specimen; but I would like to see the actual coin and make sure that Chapman did not make an error in mounting prints for his plate and mule the obverse of one coin with the reverse of another.

1796-1. No stars. Arrowheads about in line with r. side of N; no spur from 3rd feather; space between clouds below upright of E. The variety earlier described, and still high R-6.

1796-3. No stars. Adams 2, not in C or N. Obv. as No. 1, no stars, ~~wax~~ die worn down. Rev. The die of 1797: OF farther from STATES, arrowheads end about below I (I in UNITED leaning a little right)~~m~~. Gable 358, fine, and no other reported. Subject to verification.

1796-2, with stars, should be called Adams 3. Later, shows crack from drapery through 796 and at bases of 17.

1797. At least nine different ones are now traceable.

1798. The two varieties listed are respectively Adams 1 and 2. Of the extremely rare no. 2, wide date with 5 berries, probably 8 or 9 are now known--comparable to 1797, which is reasonable considering the mintages. Gable 361 was called unc. but nicked up; it ~~is~~ is not now identified. Woodin 931, VP, may be the Ten Eyck, Melish coin.

1802. B-1 is Adams 2; B-2 is probably Adams 3; B-3 is A-1, and is represented by Earle 2500, D.S. Wilson 158, Gable 362, Mills 53, H.P. Smith 240, Stickney 726 and others. ~~End~~

~~1802-4.~~

1802-4. This should read: 1st star recut, 9 points showing. Right edge of upright of E over space. Later, crack from wingtip at r. to border.

1804. Mintage figure should read 3327 in all. This was a typographical error; the division is correct. The two varieties are respectively Adams 1 and 2; the 13-star variety is represented in Adams b Earle # 2502 and Malcolm Jackson 99.

1821 through ~~22~~ 33. A few ~~more~~ more proofs have turned up of most of these dates but in no case enough to affect rarity levels. For 1824 there is also a "one-sided" proof, ex Woodin 940, ex Cleneay. For 1825 the two ~~m~~ varieties are Adams 1 and 2 respectively.

~~1827.~~ 1827. The proof reported is ~~the~~ Woodin 943, also ex Cleneay, and also one-sided, the reverse being of proof sharpness but with mint bloom (unpolished die). On all genuine "one-sided proofs" the obv. is perfection with mirror surfaces, the rev. with mint bloom; this holds for all denominations in which they are known.

1834. II-3 should read: 11th and 12th stars recut.

1835-1 ~~mint~~ should read U close to leaf, not wing.

1836 III-2: about 5 now known, two in the Harry Bass collection, a third discovered by Clarence Rareside, ex Grant Pierce.

1837-1. Later, cracks from both wingtips to borders.

1838-1. Later, recuttings fade out. John Rowe showed me a gem unc.

1839/8 D. Rev. Arrows merge in CA. Later, crack through bases of UNITED; still later, from rim to second T in STATES to eagle's head-- this state quite rare.

1839 O-1. In date 39 low, mintmark left of center above 3. Rev. D low, first S high, and on some specimens (lapped die?) arrow shafts are disconnected from claws.

~~1840.~~

1840. Later, clash mark (?) from wing at left to leg near branch;

Research In The Archives Gold Coinage revisions By Dates. Walter Breen (Cont.) November December 1951. WB's copy.

RESEARCH IN THE ARCHIVES

GOLD COINAGE REVISIONS BY DATES

By WALTER BREEN

CONTINUED

Philadelphia

For brevity I omit the quarterly figures, but the figures presented are valid and all are based on the (sometimes weekly) reports in the Bullion Journals. The totals in American State Papers—Finance contain typographical errors. Another source of confusion previously has been the fact that Director's Reports in 1796-7 were ordered by Congress prematurely. The 1796 report was delivered Nov. 29 and consequently a delivery of 854 eagles, 2797 half-eagles and 897 quarter eagles was included by error in the 1797 report although all these were made in 1796 to be exact, between Dec. 8 and Dec. 22. This is corrected here.

	\$10	\$5	\$2½
1795	2795	8707	
1796	6934	6196	963 (both types)
1797	8323	3609	859
1798	7974	24867	614

N. B. First coinage of 1798 half-eagles Jan. 4. 691 pieces—were these the small eagle type? I believe that a study of early

gold die varieties would prove that the 1795 heraldic \$5.00 were made in 1798.

1799 17483 7451 480 Dec. 28

All other published figures confirmed though no explanation appears for the unknowns (1801 \$5, 1802 \$10, 1803 \$2.50). The latter were not carryovers. 1807. There is no reasonable evidence for or against Snowden's division of the \$5: 33496 Type I

50597 Type II

1808-14. No problems.

1815. 635 Nov. 13 plus 3 for assay.

The Coiner had \$3661.33 in gold fit for coining 12/31/15; no more coined because of the Mint fire which made extensive repairs necessary to the rolling apparatus.

1818-33. No questions. Figures obtained (as above) confirm published.

1834. Motto \$5—74709, \$2½—4000 Coinage stopped May 30 anticipating the reduction in weight. The Act of 6/28 became effective on August 1, 1834.

November-December, 1951

123

Snowden doubts that the \$2.50 were ever issued. No Motto \$5—685028, \$2½—112234.

In 1835-6 approximately \$2 million of gold of former ratio was recoinced; far smaller amounts thereafter. The totals are not determinable since accounting of source of bullion deposits is far from complete. The whole amount of gold of former ratio brought into the Mint cannot be far below \$3 million and may exceed it.

1838. Coinage of Eagles resumed December; four "specimen coins" sent on or before Dec. 10. One of 1838 (and one of 1839) proof is in the Mint Collection.

1841 Quarter Eagles. None reserved for assay. Evidently they were only a "specimen" coinage like the half-cents.

1849 Gold Dollars. Coinage started May 8. There exist a few pieces with small head somewhat differently executed and placed than on the regular; one is in the Mint Cabinet and is the first gold dollar proof I have seen and the second I ever heard of, moreover besides the 1849 \$20 it is the only proof coin of that date in the collection. Probably a pattern as this type head was not perpetuated. It is impossible to say when the open wreath was replaced by the closed wreath; no data are known to me on this subject other than letters (far later) of the D/M saying that the open wreath were the "first issue".

1850. Regular \$20 coinage for circulation started March 12. A proof was in the J. B. Longacre collection.

1854. Probably the best division would place the gold dollars as follows:

Type I 840040

Type II 799405

The difficulty here is in assigning a delivery of August 19 (56097). The

first "specimens" sent the Secretary of the Treasury for approval were transmitted August 17; when his letter of approval arrived is unknown—it has not been found in the Archives. Coinage had been intermitted since June 17 (783943 till then); evidently the change of type was then contemplated. If the Sec'y telegraphed his reply, it is possible that the Aug. 19 delivery was of Type II; but no real evidence. In the absence of better data, the figures I gave above (allowing the Aug. 19 delivery to be included as Type I) will stand. It is almost certain that the Sec'y approval came on or before Aug. 24 and that is the assumption I am proceeding on.

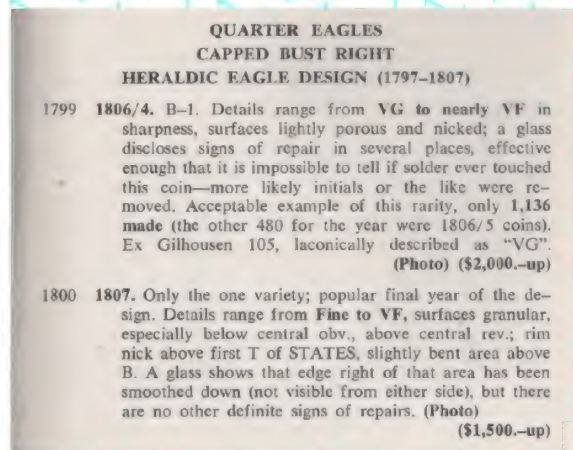
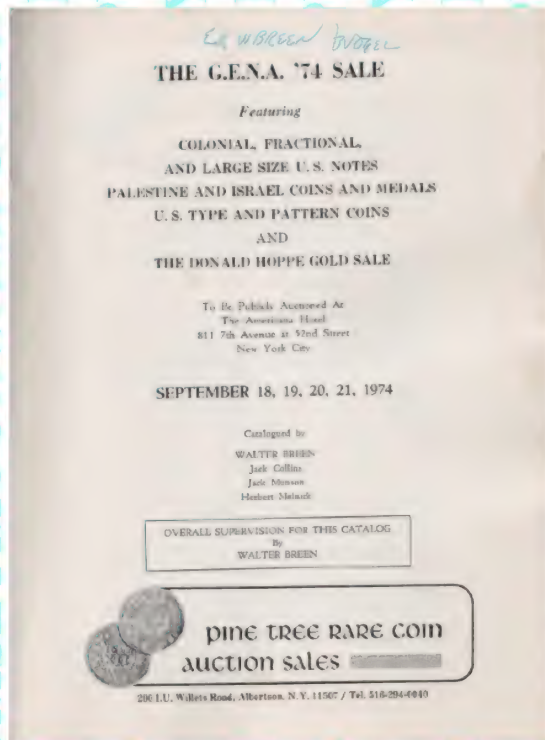
\$3.00 gold: Regular coinage started May 1, first delivery 23140 on May 8. On April 28, 15 "specimens" were enclosed in a letter of the Director to the Sec'y of the Treasury.

1858. The 2521 eagles did not include proofs, as far as can be learned.

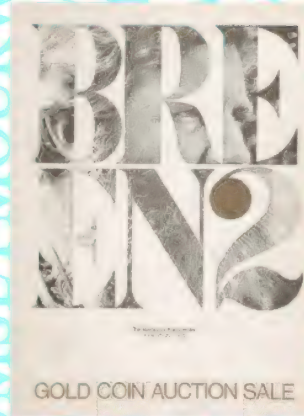
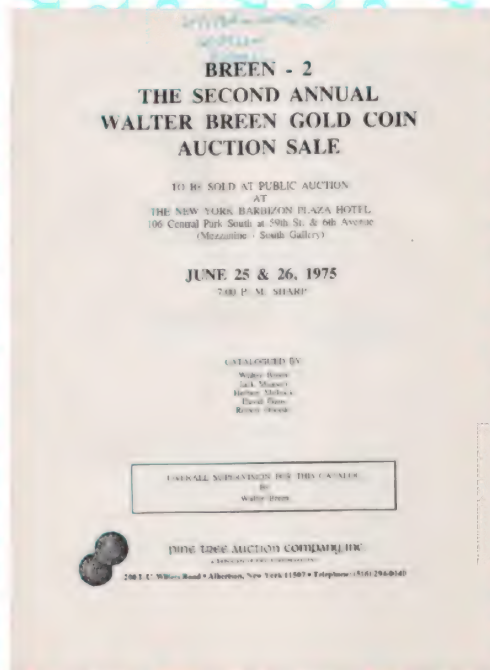
It may be mentioned that around 1860 the Director caused about \$2 million in gold dollars of the small size to be remelted and recoinced. These pieces had lain for years in the N. Y. Assay office, and in the Director's Report (for 1860 or 61, I believe) there is mentioned his belief that the rest ought to be gradually recalled, the "evil" of having two coins of different sizes but same value being only too apparent. Whether any more were actually recoinced I have been unable to find out, but the chances are that any subsequent recoinage was small on account of the suspension of specie payments and the consequent hoarding of what precious metals were available during the Civil War.

Later notes on gold coin will be found among proof coin notes.

WB's copy GENA PTA 9/1974.



P.T.A. Breen 2 6/1975 WB's copy.



EXTREMELY RARE 1888 PROOF



- 554 1888. B-1. **Brilliant Proof**, some planchet irregularities as made—minute black inclusions (in the ingot from which the strip was rolled to make this planchet) near O in OF, granularity (obviously in flan before striking) down from rear feather and at CA; three or four minute contact marks on reverse. Better than the average proof of this date, many of the survivors being poorly cleaned or nicked and scratched. Similar overall in quality to the Scanlon, "Westchester," and Pierce-Jay-Ullmer 432, **this last at \$6,000**, Ex Dr. Calvert L. Emmens coll., later lot 803, Stack's Oct. 1970 (MHS) sale. (Photo)
Tops of UNITED normal; level date.

- 555 1888. B-2. **Brilliant Borderline Unc. and lustrous**. A few microscopic hairlines on obv., so small it takes a strong glass to see them, otherwise choice in every way. Very well struck.
Tops of UNITED plainly double cut.

- 556 1888. B-2. Another. **Brilliant, frosty, Unc.** No discernible nicks or bag marks. **Only 5,000 struck**, April 18, 1888 and rare. (Photo)

- 557 1888. Another B-2. **Brilliant, lustrous About Unc.** Scattered, tiny unobtrusive bag marks. A desirable specimen of the date and type.

RARE 1889

- 558 1889. B-2. **Brilliant and Frosty Unc.** Only 2,300 struck, many of these melted, and much rarer than the 1887 or 1888 in all grades. Popular final year of the denomination and the type. Slightly finer than the 1974 Breen I Sale coin which sold for \$2,800.
The dies of all non-proofs.

2½ DOLLAR GOLD
CAPPED BUST TO RIGHT
STARS ON OBERSE
1796-1807

RARE 1802

- 559 1802. B-1 (R-6). **This has some details of EF, others more like VF**; date 1821 faintly pin scratched below drapery, obviously cleaned areas on obv., where other graffiti were skillfully removed. Reverse better and lustrous. (Photo)
Long spine leftward into wing from upper left corner of shield.

RARE 1802, B-4



- 560 1802. B-4. (R-5). **Some details Ex. Fine, others VF**, lustrous surfaces more like EF—rev. fields better than obv.; couple of tiny rim nicks, small rev. edge rub mark from a touchsome (as commonly) slight

granularity in centers, various light handling marks. **no finer ones recently offered. (Photo)**
First rev. star heavily double punched.

RARE 1804



- 561 1804. B-1. **Fourteen Stars. (R-5) More or less Ex. Fine, some lustre**, many light obv. adjustment marks, plainest at borders; scattered minute handling marks. About equal overall to Bell II 80, Beck 92, Miles 84 and Breen I, lot 50; finer than Forrest 78-79 or Gilhausen 103, the latter reappearing as "Rio Rancho" 71 at \$3,800; but this variety usually comes in VF or worse, and there are only two anywhere close to mint state. (Photo)

RARE 1807



- 562 1807. Only the one variety, popular final year of the design. **Obtained as "Ch. AU," this has lovely lustrous surfaces consistent with that grade; sharpness of some details is indeed AU**, others are EF. Small, unimportant edge dent opposite first star. One for type collectors. Ex 1974 ANA Convention sale, lot 820, as EF, at a healthy \$3,500, but worth more today. (Photo)

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE RARE 1807

- 563 1807. Another. **This also is between EF and AU**, bright and lustrous, with several obv. pin scratches an edge dent on either side. Better looking than it sounds; well struck and with good surfaces, the reverse particularly attractive. (Photo)

- 564 1807. A Third. **Classical example of Extremely Fine grade, some mint lustre** (plainest in rev. fields), trivial handling marks. (The small mark below ER on rev. is from foreign matter adhering to the die.) Obtained as "AU," of course, and it is actually fairly close to that level. This is the equal of Miles 88 and Ullmer 355, the latter at \$2,900. (Photo)

CAPPED BUST TO LEFT, REDUCED SIZE 1821-1834
(COINS OF 1829-1834 ARE SMALLER IN DIAMETER THAN THE 1821-1827 COINS)

SUPERB 1830



- 565 1830. Only the one variety. **Brilliant Unc.**, usual uneven strike, some prooflike surface, some slight local

U.S. QUARTER EAGLES

granularity in planchet (before striking); three shallow and completely trivial rim dents, not worth describing. **A beautiful example of this rare date; one of possibly a half dozen surviving in this condition**, and certainly an outstanding piece for the collector in need of this design. This is the twin of the Roach-Grant, Pierce-Miles coin (lot 96); it is slightly finer than Ullmer 360 (which was rubbed in fields) at \$5,750. **It has not been exceeded in quality in many years, and has not been elsewhere matched in the last couple of decades. (Photo)**

RARE 1832

- 566 **1832. B-1, only the one variety. Obtained as "BU," this is a brilliant borderline Unc.** with a few trivially minute handling marks. Much finer than Beck 102 or that in the Merkin Sept. 1967 sale, this is very similar to WGC 98 and Bell 1 98, and **the identical twin of Winter 501 at a record \$5,500. Lovely. (Photo)**
- 567 **1832. Another. Sharpness of EF**, somewhat porous surfaces more like VF; several tiny rim nicks, one on obv. Finer than Lovi-Turrini piece and at least equal to Gilhausen 116. **(Photo)**

Stack's 4/1955, WB annotated.

little time spent with my pen & hand in type

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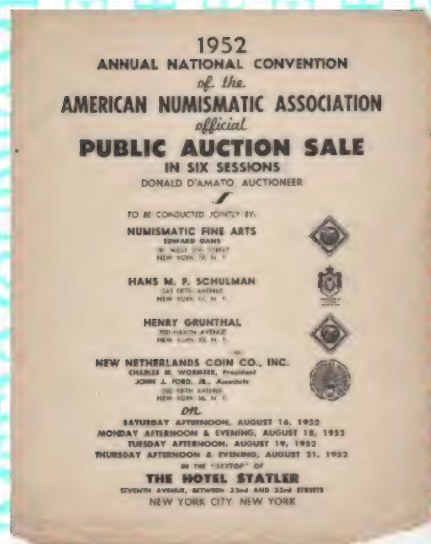
UNITED STATES Treasury
 COINAGE AND PAPER
 OFFICE

U. S. QUARTER EAGLES (\$2.50 GOLD)

802	1864	Paint edge dent	Extremely Fine	14 ⁺
804	1834	Extremely Fine		12 ⁺
805	1834	Very Fine		
806	1825	Very Fine		
807	1826	Uncirculated		
808	1843-"O"	Small Date. Uncirculated		
809	1847-"O"	Fine		
810	1851	Very Fine		

to Stack's VF +25%

WB's copy: Office Copy ANA 1952.



571	1916, McKinley Memorial. Niles, Ohio. Brilliant Unc. Only 9,977 pieces coined. Scarce.
572	Quarter Eagles, 1833. Round cap on Liberty; Motto over eagle. Ex. Fine. This rare coin is almost Uncirculated, but it has been cleaned and slightly handled. Worth \$65.00 today.
573	1834. New type, no motto over eagle. Ex. Fine. Brilliant, apparently struck as a Proof.
574	1836. Just about Uncirculated. Lustrous, and with a broken obverse die.
575	1902. Uncirculated. Becoming hard to find so.
576	1904. Brilliant Uncirculated. Almost perfect.
577	1905. Brilliant "Gem" Proof. A sparkling little beauty.
578	1905. Brilliant Uncirculated. Unusually choice.
579	1911 "D". The rarest variety of the Bela L. Pratt Indian head design. Ex. Fine. Lists at \$20.00 in only V. Fine.
580	1926. Sesquicentennial. The last Gold Commemorative struck. Brilliant Uncirculated.
581	1926. As the last. Uncirculated. 2 Pcs.
582	Gold Eagle, 1906/05. Small eagle. Almost Extremely Fine, but with slight indications of handling, and a partly

Original color scan is very difficult to read, B&W superior.

ALL at all original
1756. (N672, A-1, C-1) No ss. St. d. B over cap; 6 in bust. I low, leans r.
R⁸ (N672, A-1, C-1) BERTY c. B E widely spaced. Nubich 1097: base lat. (lower end frequently B)
G177 R⁷ N673, A-2, C-2 W 7-2 not berries. L t. 1st f.
Stars 8sf. Closed date, not quite st. 1 higher, curved. 6 over bust.
(432) N674 B beyond cap. STARS 1097: C E T Y mixed. Some ext 9t last DG
H 16w, irreg. arr.; 2 stars at extreme e. squeezed together. A x o lit
4 berries, one on upper edge of 2nd outer m lvs. Scratches in die over
TAT & thru upper 3 of three letters. Dk. DG ext 39 lin. Thick
Crack p. G: red lines with sides small at NUB.

1797. N671, 1, L. as 766. 7 t. bust. Close date, knobbed 9. B weak (spaced less)
R⁸ (N671, 1, L) Ok. T-B=field-inner pt. 12a-outside of 13=edge.
G150-L N49-SIS 4 h berries. W 7-22. A ext. Spur from 3rd feather points to end A.
Row of 3 ws before back 1st st. 13a are such too c., in fact ext.

1798. N675, C-1. as 6 to 7. closed date, no c. i. Very small 8 as on dime. } 13+ above
R⁸ N49-SIS A t. 8 berries. D n c. wing. arrows pc. N. Dickman
R⁷ N676, C-2 11 w. 8 t. bust. W d. r. Is the 8 also small? Gen. Date which was made down
ONE OF THESE DIES IS THE 1799. I WOULD SUSPECT THAT THE RABER #2 IS THIS ONE. (480 cand)

G178 N677, C-1 LIB c. 1, 14, L ext devices. as 8 & 5. 2 over 1. Only one cov. no
N678 15a Rev. Leaf joins rt. base of I. D c. 13 v. neck. (= 1799 rev.)
+ N679. (2) Rev. as last, but leaf does not touch I. (These 2 have 5 berries)
423 miling N679. (3) Rev. 3 centered over space between 2 columns. 13th directly over 10th a. are
to 1 upr. N. 9 berries, top 2 merged in leaves, top left of those two over
in a leaf. 13 not very close to neck. Scit in die (2) first 2 feathers
top of A. A t. 13. Gr. h. ~ N678. 1st st. 13a are such too c., in fact ext.

G151 IN ONE OF THESE DIES THE 1804-13 REV.? ONES ONE OF THEM NOT LIKE 1804-13?
IN THAT CASE, THE VAR. IN QUESTION IS THE 1803, AND THE 1804-13 COMES FIRST.
1804-. 8 & 5. N680, 13a t. 8 sf. as 8. as in dim/vb rear. 9at t. Y, 13x ext bust. LIB c. 13-9 3
y lms. abn. arr. Actually 6-6-2 but 3-9-10-11-1, 1-2-3, 7-8-9-14, 11-11-6 8c.
are in st. lines, and the pattern of reg. congruent diamond shapes is seen.
4 berries. A c. Pt. of leaf t. I at ext. rt. pt. ars. C N. 13* t. beak &
scroll. D d. wing.

G152 THIS VAR. ANS. DESCRIPTION OF DIKE REV. OF 1801 WITH 14 STARS. IS IT THE SAME DIME
314 R⁷ C2. M631. Same obverse. 13a, normal arr., st. branch. D c. wing. 1-7-12 not st.;
1803 6-11-13 st. In T form of head. Needle back. (to 1802 dies rev?)
Not = WSC.

1805. 7 & 4. N622. C-1. 1 & 5 smaller than 80; 180 as on dime. 5 resembles that on the half-
cent. 0-3-4. Spur from border almost runs into 9th star.
Rev. 1 Q A t. leaves & claw. D c. wing. 5 b's, 3 of them stemless. A c. 4.
Large stars, the 11th recut. Ars. ext. only between U & N.
large and many dots.

N 1806/N 1805. LIB c. L xot cap. TY 6 at top. 8 toe c., 6 runs into bust. All as r. extremely
widely spaced. 1 s, 8 t; 9*, 13* vd. Rev. Same as 1805. Lady ck 10: rry, all
1806-5-765. M681. ALTERED FROM THE 1805 DIE - same including the spur at 9th star. 06 t, 6 leans
r. Heavy ck. bases of 6-7, top 7-LIB. REV. Same as 1805.
1807 N 1 t. hair, 7 xot bust, 766. Ok. 1807-1-2, 2 thru 6, tops of LIBERTY. LIB c, 1 v c ap.
Rev. of 1805. 13a t. 8 sf. as 8. as in dim/vb rear. 9at t. Y, 13x ext bust. LIB c. 13-9 3
LOOK FOR IDENTITIES 1798-1807 IN \$2 & TIME REVS.
1808 Only the one variety. Ok. all as r. from cap.
1809 13a t. 8 sf. as 8. as in dim/vb rear. 9at t. Y, 13x ext bust. LIB c. 13-9 3
1822 2710

Mint Letters 1798-1802; 1803 totals. Microfilm.

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Comparative Statement of the Coins used by MINT

Mint of the United States from the year 1798 to 1802 INCLUSIVE, viz.

		Gold	Silver	Copper	TOT
1798	7974 Eagles -- 7974 00 24167 Half Eagles -- 1243350 610 Quarter Eagles -- 15350 32536 Dollars -- 325360 27550 Pennies -- 27550 979700 Cents	205610	930291	9797	545698
1799	17453 Eagles -- 174530 7451 Half Eagles -- 372550 445 Quarter Eagles -- 111250 423515 Dollars -- 4235150 704555 Pennies -- 7045550 12167 Half Cents	243285	423515	910668	64590668
1800	58765 Eagles -- 587650 11622 Half Eagles -- 581100 20970 Dollars -- 2097000 21740 Pennies -- 217400 24000 Half Cents -- 240000 2522175 Cents -- 25221750 11530 Half Cents	817700	224296	2927940	57183540
1801	29284 Eagles -- 292840 20000 Half Eagles -- 100000 34125 Dollars -- 3412500 30289 Pennies -- 302890 316040 Pennies -- 3160400 32910 Half Cents -- 3291000 1362887 Cents	492840	74758	1862837	51095637
1802	15096 Eagles -- 150960 58176 Half Eagles -- 290880 2612 Quarter Eagles -- 65300 41650 Dollars -- 4165000 27340 Pennies -- 273400 16970 Pennies -- 169700 12010 Half Cents -- 120100 3435100 Cents -- 34351000 14360 Half Cents	423350	58343	3442283	51611583
		1392575	111200	2623428	
		Total Gold			2790012.28

At the end of the printed Sheet is a note.

Microfilm Letters page 175-6 paraphrased, 11/9/02: Nathaniel Thomas former Clerk removed "[...]a number of papers belonging to the Treas. Dept., the contents of which are unknown[...]" He was caught redhanded, he denied it, when they tried to search him he "violently" ran off. But next day

he returned "certain papers." Boudnoit ordered Mrs Cloud, Eckfeldt, Ehrenzeller, Scot to examine papers & establish the facts. Then brief Mr. Dallas the attorney for the U.S. in this District. Next day Director says Treas. was in neglect.

Annual Report 1802 (Letters page 180) "[...]Gold \$516,115.83 coined. \$129,730 coined from bullion & gold dust imported & from Union. The remainder has come from "clipped, plugged & otherwise spoiled Foreign coins." Most of this went to The Bank of the U.S. for redemption of \$5 notes.

Gold struck 1802 July-Sept. 1,634, Oct.-Dec. 958.

—Letters page 183: First coinage July 31, 1795.

—Ltrs. p. 43 First gold coinage July 31, 1795

WB's annotated 1959 ANA catalogue.



Gold New Varieties ms.

7

of 54 proofs included only proofs, as deceptive first strikes exist. I have not yet had the opportunity to check them over for die varieties.

1885-3. This also comes with reverse severely clashed.

1886-3. Microscopic examination makes it a little more nearly certain that the ~~xx~~ peculiarity around the 6 is a clash mark.

QUARTER EAGLES. 1796. A xerox copy of ~~a~~ one of the Edgar H. Adams notebooks, not earlier available to me and evidently of later date, gives different numbers and illustrates a new variety not otherwise known. As the photograph is a contact print presumably it is of a traceable specimen; but I would like to see the actual coin and make sure that Chapman did not make an error in mounting prints for his plate and mule the obverse of one coin with the reverse of another.

1796-1. No stars. Arrowheads about in line with r. side of N; no spur from 3rd feather; space between clouds below upright of E. The variety earlier described, and still high R-6.

1796-3. No stars. Adams 2, not in C or N. Obv. as No. 1, no stars, ~~whx~~ die worn down. Rev. The die of 1797: OF farther from STATES, arrowheads end about below I (I in UNITED leaning a little right) ~~u~~. Gable 358, fine, and no other reported. Subject to verification.

1796-2, with stars, should be called Adams 3. Later, shows crack from drapery through 796 and at bases of 17.

1797. At least nine different ones are now traceable.

1798. The two varieties listed are respectively Adams 1 and 2. Of the extremely rare no. 2, wide date with 5 berries, probably 8 or 9 are now known--comparable to 1797, which is reasonable considering the mintages. Gable 361 was called unc. but nicked up; it ~~is~~ is not now identified. Woodin 931, VF, may be the Ten Eyck, Melish coin.

1802. B-1 is Adams 2; B-2 is probably Adams 3; B-3 is A-1, and is represented by Earle 2500, D.S. Wilson 158, Gable 362, Mills 53, H.P. Smith 240, Stickney 726 and others. ~~Ext~~

~~1802-4.~~

1802-4. This should read: 1st star recut, 9 points showing. Right edge of upright of E over space. Later, crack from wingtip at r. to border.

1804. Mintage figure should read 3327 in all. This was a typographical error; the division is correct. The two varieties are respectively Adams 1 and 2; the 13-star variety is represented in Adams b Earle & 2502 and Malcolm Jackson 99.

1821 through ~~22~~ 33. A few ~~more~~ more proofs have turned up of most of these dates but in no case enough to affect rarity levels. For 1824 there is also a "one-sided" proof, ex Woodin 940, ex Gleney. For 1825 the two ~~n~~ varieties are Adams 1 and 2 respectively.

~~1827~~ 1827. The proof reported is ~~the~~ Woodin 943, also ex Glenway, and also one-sided, the reverse being of proof sharpness but with mint bloom (unpolished die). On all genuine "one-sided proofs" the obv. is perfection with mirror surfaces, the rev. with mint bloom; this holds for all denominations in which they are known.

1834. II-3 should read: 11th and 12th stars recut.

1835-1 ~~should~~ should read U close to leaf, not wing.

1836 III-2: about 5 now known, two in the Harry Bass collection, a third discovered by Clarence Rarehide, ex Grant Pierce.

1837-1. Later, cracks from both wingtips to borders.

1838-1. Later, recuttings fade out. John Rowe showed me a gen unc.

1839/8 D. Rev. Arrows merge in CA. Later, crack through bases of UNITED; still later, from rim to second T in STATES to eagle's head--this state quite rare.

1839 O-1. In date 39 low, mintmark left of center above 3. Rev. D low, first S high, and on some specimens (lapped dies?) arrow shafts are disconnected from claws.

~~1840-4.~~

1840. Later, clash mark (?) from wing at left to leg near branch;

1816 Mint fire; Mickley dies letter.

From Denver Mint to BV's records:

TD Denver Mint News Letter February 1994: 1816 MINT FIRE. The mill-house and the adjoining brick-house burned down. The mill-house was replaced by a large brick building with a 10HP steam engine in the basement. That powerful engine, purchased in England, drove the rolling presses.

TD: Mint Watchmen works from 6:00PM-5:00AM will particularly "examine the department of the engine and all the rooms where the fire has been on the preceding day." The rules state if a fire is spotted the Watchman required to ring the alarm bell. Inside the mint fire was carefully regulated when it was necessary to transport the fire from one part of the Mint to another was done with a dark lantern but not an open candle. The Watch-man is required to ring the yard bell every hour on the hour and send the watchdog immediately after ringing the bell.

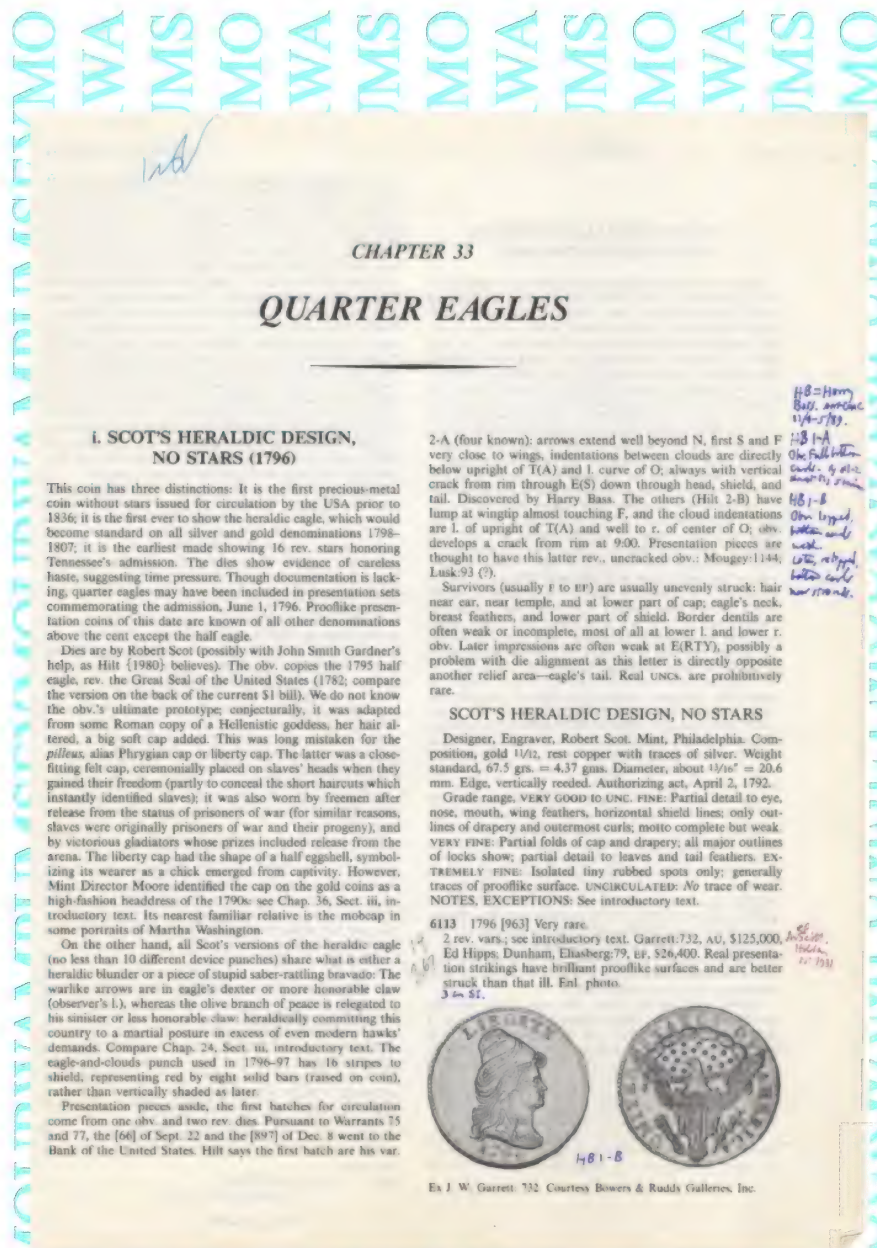
WB letter.

From pages 2-3 of that manuscript volume I quote the following; punctuation and spelling as in the original:

"In digging out the rubbish from the cellar of the Mint which was destroyed in 1815, a small vault was found under the pavement bricked up with the exception of a small hole, and in tearing away the wall a number of the dies were found in this inclosure, there were about one bushel, they were picked out by workmen and finally sold as old steel to a worker in this metal. Some time after their disposition Mr. James [sic] J. Mickley hearing of them endeavoured to obtain them, but most of them had been worked over, they being of the very best kind of steel. A number of them are now in his cabinet, among which is that very scarce number, the halfpenny of 1811."

The account contains minor inaccuracies: ~~about~~ the ~~Mint~~ ^{fire} was ~~destroyed~~ ^{the} ~~most~~ ^{fire} took place in January 1816¹⁵⁷ and the excavations followed later that year. Mickley's given name was Joseph, not James; and "halfpenny" is an obvious misnomer. Nevertheless, I do not doubt the main outlines of the story. At the time, he was a boy of 17. The Mint fire did not destroy the Mint proper, nor any cellar in it, only ~~an~~ outbuildings including the shed where the rolling mills and planchet cutters were housed; this is why no gold and silver were coined in 1816, and no gold in 1817.¹⁵⁸⁻⁶⁰ This event served as an excuse for a thorough and general housecleaning, rebuilding, and remodeling of buildings and machinery.^{157b-8}

WB's annot. Ency.



Reproduced here for historical purposes only.

QUARTER EAGLES

From poor relations and odd little souvenirs, these coins have become great prizes. The usual warning (Chap. 32, Sect. I) about solder marks applies; but the coins are rare enough to command collector attention even when mutilated.

SCOT'S HERALDIC EAGLE DESIGN,
WITH STARS

Designer, Engraver, Mints, Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before.
Grade range and standards, as before.

I. 16 STRIPES ON SHIELD

6114 1796 Stars 8 + 8. [432] Very rare.
Hilt 1-C. Delivered Jan. 14, 1797. Enl. photos. Clapp, Eliasberg 80, AU, \$26,400. See introductory text.
3 in SL



Ex J. W. Garrett. 733. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6115 1797 Stars 7 + 6. [427] Very rare.
Hilt 5-D. Rev. reused on 1798/7 disme. Obv. break varies in intensity. Usually vii; Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg 81, EF, \$12,100. Auction 80-886, AU, \$34,000. Bell II 77, "gem unc" (uncirculated), and 1970 ANA-1424, said to be prooflike, may be finest. Mintage figure comprises the [98], [125], and [201] of Feb. 28, March 14, and June 29, 1797. Hilt thinks the first were dated 1796, the other 2 deliveries plus [256] of Jan. 11, 1798, were all the 1797's. See introductory text.



Ex J. W. Garrett. 737. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

II. 13 STRIPES ON SHIELD

6116 1798 [All kinds 1,094] Stars 6 + 7. Close date. 4 berries. Ex. rare. UNC.
Hilt 4-B. See introductory text. "Melish": 1102, has a "cud" rim break obliterating most of 1, first 3 stars, and part of fourth: "fatal break."
Wetmore: 99, Brand I; B; almost EF, 24, 000.
Mid: 51. 4.375 gm

6117 1798 Wide date, 5 berries. Very rare.
Hilt 3-L, who identifies these as the [388] struck May-Aug. 1798. Rev. of 1798-1800 dismes with narrow A's Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg 82, AU, \$8,250. See introductory text.
Hilt 3-L, 6, 3, 3.



6118 1802 Stars 8 + 5. [3,035]
4 vars.; see introductory text. Mintage figure includes [423] coined in 1803 from 1802-dated dies.



6119 1804 Rev., 14 stars, cross arrangement. [2,324+] Rare. Hilt 7-F. Rev. left over from 1798, used also on dismes. Auction 82-900, UNC., \$15,000. Enl. photos.



6120 1804 Rev., 13 stars, arc arrangement. [1,003+] Ex. rare. Hilt 7-A. Possibly 9 known. Usually in low grades. Charlotte 1672 (S 3/17/79), EF, \$20,000. Carter 533, EF, \$27,500. M. Brownlee.

6121 1805 Stars 7 + 6 [1,781] Very scarce.
See introductory text. 1980 ANA-66, UNC., \$14,000. 3 in SL

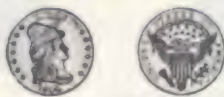


6122 1806/4 Stars 8 + 5 [1,136] Rare.
See introductory text. Auction 82-902, UNC., \$9,250.



1806 PRO. cool rim end @ 2.1. 918

- 6123 1806/5 Stars 7 + 6. [480] Very rare. Obs. and rev. of 6121, altered by Scot. See introductory text. Always with some stage of break at LIB. Usually in low grades. Newlin, Garrett 740, \$52,000. Robison 825, AU, \$12,000. *Mint, S; "Abandonment" w/1, 8*



- 6124 1807 Stars 7 + 6. [6812] See introductory text. Usually cracked through base of date and 1. stars. *HO*

iii. REICH'S CAPPED DRAPED BUST (1808)

John Reich, the German immigrant who sold himself into indentured service to get to the United States during the Napoleonic Wars, and was rescued to become Assistant Engraver of the Mint (1807-17), received orders from Mint Director Patterson to provide improved designs for all denominations: a slap at Scot, his superior in office. Reich's sole contribution to the quarter-eagle denomination is a single pair of dies for a single-year type coin of a tiny mintage: an instant rarity. On Feb. 26, 1808, came the single delivery. [2,710], using date and letter punches reused on 1809 dimes, and bust and device punches not later resurrected. Obv. bears Reich's usual "signature": thirteenth (lower r.) star is notched. Fewer than 50 survivors are traceable, the true number possibly between 35 and 40.

The reason for this tiny issue is unknown, though early die breakage may have had something to do with it. Only one coin has been reported with unbroken obv. die (unverified), all seen to date show a crack extending from cap through all stars at r. All survivors, including the three UNC's, show excessively narrow borders, usually incomplete. This must have been seen as a design flaw conducive to rapid wear on both sides, as on the half-dollar revs. of 1836-37 and the 1861 S Paquet double eagles. Predictably, survivors are in lower grade range than those of earlier dates lacking this problem. The distribution includes three UNC's, possibly six AU's, 15 or more in VF-EF, perhaps a dozen in VG to F. Most are weak on wingtips and tops of letters; all are weak on parts of borders; all have some stars flat; most show rim dents or bruises, as though the entire issue had been spilled on a floor at the Mint.

But even in worn condition, this date has always been subject to unusual demand, much of it representing pressure from type collectors who want one of each major design. Many survivors have accordingly spent decades in museums, estates, or permanent collections; any that shows up at auction will attract fierce competition.

No Archives documentation explains the small mintage, abandonment of the design, or noncoinage of quarter eagles for the dozen years to follow. All we have is conjectures; mine follow.

The tiny mintage may reflect early die breakage and/or quick filling of bank orders for quarter eagles. Banks normally specified the denomination into which they wanted their deposits of foreign coins or native bullion coined, and over 90% of the time they wanted most or all their gold deposits coined into half eagles. Except for 1816-17, when a fire in the Mint's outbuilding housing rolling mills prevented conversion of gold or silver ingots into strip or planchets, coinages of half eagles remained

large. The Mint Director may have believed that until more banks ordered quarter eagles, there would be no point in making more dies for them. A more appropriate question is why quarter eagle coinage was resumed at all. Archives documents fail to provide a reply.

Abandonment of the design may reflect Scot's personal pique. Note that in 1813, Scot replaced Reich's perfectly good half-eagle design with his own capped-head type, and that in 1816 he replaced Reich's beautiful though eccentric "Classic Head" cent obv. with one of the ugliest conceptions ever to misrepresent Ms. Liberty. Possibly Scot's sight was by then failing. Compare introductory texts to Chap. 18, Sects. ix, x, and Chap. 36, Sects. iii, iv.

Whatever the causes, the 1808 is a highly coveted rarity. Survivors are under 2% of original mintage (earlier figure was 4%), possibly from the weak borders' exposing the coins to undue wear.

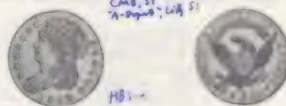
REICH'S CAPPED DRAPED BUST

Designer, Engraver, John Reich. Mints, Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before.

Grade range, VERY GOOD to UNC. FINE: Eye complete, ear half visible, LIBERTY and motto legible but weak, eagle's eye visible. VERY FINE: Partial cap, hair, and claw details; over half wing feathers visible at least as outlines. EXTREMELY FINE: Isolated tiny rubbed spots only; partial Mint luster. UNCIRCULATED: No trace of wear. NOTES, EXCEPTIONS See introductory text.

- 6125 1808 [2,710] Very rare.

Struck Feb. 26. For peculiarities of striking and grade, see introductory text. David S. Wilson, Clapp, Ellsberg 89, AU, \$26,400, Kevin Lipton; Col. Green, Jerome Kern, Dr. Judd, Dr. Ketterman, Jimmy Hayes, Auction 84-1372, \$99,000, D. Akers. UNC.



iv. SCOT'S CAPPED HEAD (1821-27)

After over a dozen years of noncoinage of this denomination, apparently a few banks specified that parts of their deposits of gold bullion and foreign coins should be coined into quarter eagles—possibly as Christmas presents or souvenirs. Accordingly, Robert Scot (then 77 years old and with failing sight, but secure in his life tenure as Engraver) devised crude copies of his 1813 half-eagle design, and hastily translated them into one working device punch for head and another for eagle with scroll, thence into working dies. The coins were smaller (19 mm as against the former 20.6), but minutely thicker to preserve their weight unchanged. Letter punches were by Henry Starr.

Only a single obv. die was used in each year, though a second was made for 1821 which remained unused until 1824, when its final 1 was altered to a 4. Reportedly a second 1825 obv. was altered at the Mint by Kneass to 1826—so effectively that at most a microscopic corner of 5 shows at upper l. of 6 and often not even that; its overdate status has been disputed. It must have been made long after its brother of 1825, as it has larger stars as in 1827.

QUARTER EAGLES

Only a single rev. die exists for each year except 1825. The first rev. of that year is the die of 1821-24. [3,324] Feb. 16-June 30; the second is that of 1826-27. [1,110] Oct.-Dec. 1825. This second var., discovered about 1915 by Waldo Newcomer, has larger denominator, large 2 close to leaf, fraction bar opposite a point a little above center of 2, stem end directly above curve of D rather than above its upright. It remains very rare despite decades of examination of 1825's; possibly 8-10 survive.

Mintages remained of the same order of size as in previous years. Generally, from 30-50 survive of each date, except for 1825 close fraction and 1826. Survivors are mostly vs to UNC., though mint-state examples of 1821, 1826, and 1827 are seldom offered; beware "sliders."

The same warning applies as formerly about coins showing traces of solder.

SCOT'S CAPPED HEAD

Designer, Robert Scot, rev. after Reich. Engraver, Scot. Mint. Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before, except Diameter approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ " = 19 mm.

Grade range and standards, as 1808, though without the peculiar weaknesses of that date.

6126 1821 [6,448 + ?P] Rare

Small stars, 1821-25. Proofs and earliest business strikes show guide lines (arcs) between words; on later ones these are effaced. Some (proofs and business strikes) have a tiny depression on cheek from foreign matter adhering to die. To date 7 proofs are traced, one in St. Clair-Stefanelli (1970), fig. 20. Garrett:743, Proof, \$120,000. Parmelee, Mills, Clapp, Eliasberg:90, Proof, \$46,200, Auction 84-1373, \$71,500. Carter:536, UNC., \$12,650. Enl. photos.



6127 1824/1 [2,600 + ?P] Rare.

Date differently spaced from preceding. Serif of 1 within top triangle of 4, and faintly on upper diagonal. Business strikes (Jan. 30) are normally weaker on head and parts of shield and adjacent wing and leg feathers. Spedding, Clapp, Eliasberg:91, AU, \$7,700; Auction 79-1665, UNC., \$25,000. Proofs: 1) Mint, SI (cleaned). 2) Clineay, Woodin, "one-sided" (mirror obv. field, frosty rev. field). 3), 4) Pvt. colls. Enl. photos.



Ex J. W. Garrett: 744. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6128 1825 Distant fraction [3,324] Rare.

Rev. of 1821-24. Often weak on head. See introductory text. Carter:538, UNC., \$17,600, R. L. Hughes.

6129 1825 Close fraction [1,110 + ?P] Very rare.

Rev. of 1826-27. See introductory text. (One proof in SI) 2 others reported; possibly 8-10 business strikes, coined Oct.-Dec. 1825. Enl. photos. HJ 2-Bx 4 (197)



Ex J. W. Garrett: 746. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

6130 1826 Larger stars [760 + ?P] Very rare.

Business strikes coined March 31; generally cataloged as overdate. See introductory text. Pierce, Miles, Ullmer:359, UNC., \$14,500 (1974); Auction 79-225, UNC., \$31,000. Possibly 3 proofs survive. HJ 2-Bx 4 (197)

6131 1827 [2,800 + ?P] Rare.

Business strikes coined Feb. 19. Usually weak on head. Carter:540, UNC., \$17,600. One proof reported.

v. KNEASS'S MODIFIED CAPPED HEAD (1829-34)

After Robert Scot died in 1823, the Mint hired William Kneass, a local engraver of bank-note plates, as his successor. Kneass's special assignment was not to create new designs but to improve existing designs of all series in his spare time, by mechanically multiplying working dies from current device punches. This project yielded modified designs for dimes in 1828, followed in 1829 by similar improved versions of half dimes, quarter eagles, and half eagles, and in 1831 by their counterparts in half cents and quarter dollars. Cents and half dollars would not be attempted for several years; there was still too much demand for coinage in these denominations to afford time to create new device punches.

Kneass's modified designs were notable for smaller stars and letters (from punches by Christian Gobrecht), redrawn heads and eagles (with a more professionally finished look than Scot's frequently crude conceptions), but most of all for beaded borders surrounded by high, plain raised rims produced by a "close collar." This new invention consisted of a heavy block of steel containing a hole the same diameter as the finished coin, grooved to impart the reeded edge; this resisted edgewise expansion of planchets at the moment of striking, furnishing "a mathematical equality to their diameters," according to Mint Director Samuel Moore.

Mintages remained of roughly the same quantities as before; survivors are slightly rarer, and occur in about the same grade range, with perhaps a few more UNCs. Die life was potentially much longer: a single rev. of 1830 stayed in use for proofs and business strikes through 1834—but there was too little bank demand for quarter eagles in any one year to exhaust the effective life of any one obv. die, so that for each year there is only one var.

Proofs exist for each year in this group, but most survivors

are impaired, probably most were spent during the 1837-44 "Hard Times" period.

The most famous of these years, and one of the most illustrious of all American gold rarities, is 1834 with mintage. Most of the [4,000] coined before May 30 remained in the Mint, to be melted after Aug. 1, when the new law became effective, reducing standard weight enough to render each old-tenor quarter eagle worth \$2.665 (i.e., silver content of alloy). Several survivors originated as proofs, and not impossibly all did; no mint-state business strike is known, and all the best ones have proof surface. Mint Director J. R. Snowden (1860) could find no record that any business strikes of 1834 old-tenor were released. The roster is as nearly complete as possible, though quality of illustrations in some auction catalogs precludes positive identification.

1. Adam Eckfeldt (1838), Mint Cabinet, SI. Proof, 194.
2. J. Colvin Randall (Dec. 1895), John H. Clapp, Louis Eliasberg 190, \$20,900, Kevin Lipton. Lightly rubbed Proof.
3. Harold Newlin (12/31/1884), T. Harrison Garrett, J. W. Garrett 753, \$60,000, Auction 82-1860, \$30,000. AU, ex-Proof.
4. A. J. Allen, Ira Reed, Thomas L. Gaskill, NN 48-201. EF, ex-Proof.
5. James Ten Eyck, Belden Roush, Louis Eliasberg, NN 49-575, Grant Pierce, R. L. Miles-100, \$6,600, Nathan Shapiro 730, 34,200. AU.
6. John Storey Jenks, William Cutler Atwater, Clinton Hester, 1949 ANA, Chadwick-Darnell 158, EF. Possibly same as no. 13 below? ? *1913 B. 10. 42-40 1/1/15*
7. Hillyer Ryder, F. C. C. Boyd, WGC, "J. F. Bell," "Memorable" 94, pvt. colls., Moccata Metals, 1979 ANA 57, \$32,000. AU, ex-Proof?
8. Charles M. Williams, Adolphe Mengou-1180, H. P. Graves, EF. Possibly same as no. 11 or 12?
9. Wardo C. Newcomer, Col. E. H. R. Green, Jerome Kern 22, Carter 586, EF, nicked and scratched, \$12,650.
10. James Lawson estate (before 1880), Mabel Sandford, 1947 ANA, VF+, ? *1834-1837*
11. Mackenzie, Nicholson Family 53, VF. Possibly same as one of above.
12. "Alto" 71. Same comment.
13. Arthur Lamborn, "Fairfield" 1461, \$19,000, Auction 80-888, EF, \$33,000. Same comment.
14. Shuford 1723. Possibly same as one of above; quality of photographic reproduction prevents certainty.
15. 1973 ANA 820. Same comment.

KNEASS'S MODIFIED CAPPED HEADS

Designer, Engraver, William Kneass, after Scot and Reich. Mint, Philadelphia. Physical Specifications, Authorizing Acts, as before, except Diameter 0.7" = 18.2 mm.

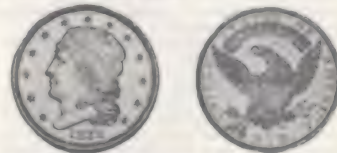
Grade range, F to UNC., most often VF-AU. Grade standards, as before, but without the peculiarities of 1808.

- 6132 1829 [3,403 + ?P] Rare.
Business strikes coined Feb. 9. Most survivors are EF. At least 8 proofs, possibly 12, mostly nicked and scratched. Enl.



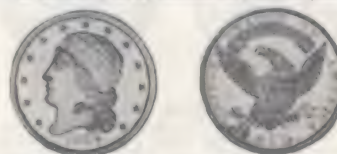
FEDERAL GOLD COINAGES

- photos. Auction 79:765, UNC., \$17,000; Carter 541, UNC., \$14,300; Garrett 1980, Proof, \$105,000. *1834-1837*
- 6133 1830 [4,540 + ?P] Rare.
UNITED) plainly repunched; this rev. continued through 6137, repeatedly repolished. Apparently 5 proofs, one each in SI and OCL. Auction 86-893, UNC., \$11,000. *1834-1837*
- 6134 1831 [4,520 + ?P] Rare.
Business strikes mostly EF-AU or better. At least 8 proofs, 4 with minor impairment. Stuckney, Clapp, Eliasberg 97, \$30,800, D. Kagin. *1834-1837*
- 6135 1832 Modified head. [4,400 + ?P] Rare.
Higher apparent relief; different contours to curls, especially below LIBE and above date. This new head punch continues into 1834. Business strikes are not as well struck as 1829-31. Clapp, Eliasberg 98, UNC., \$14,300. Proofs: 1) Cohen, Winslow Lewis, Marks, choice; 2) Davis, Woodin, nicked; 3) Bell, "Memorable," Chadwick-Darnell 157, nicked on cheek. Enl. photos. *2-58*



EX J. W. Garrett: 751. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

- 6136 1833 [4,160 + ?P] Rare. *210-4316*
Rarer in all grades than 1829-32; much rarer UNC. Proofs: 1) Mint, SI. 2) Parmelee, Mills, Clapp, Eliasberg 99, \$50,600. 3) Hall, Graves. 4) Wiedlin, Newcomer, Col. Green, "Bell," "Memorable," impaired. 5) Pvt. coll. 6137 1834 [4,000 + ?P] Ex. rare.
See introductory text for discussion and roster. Enl. photos. *1834-1837*



EX J. W. Garrett: 753. Courtesy Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc.

vi. THE REICH-KNEASS "CLASSIC HEADS" (1834-39)


For several decades, the effect of enormous quantities of Mexican, Peruvian, and other Latin American silver reaching world markets had been increasingly to lower the price of silver in terms of gold, or in effect to raise the price of gold bullion (reckoned in Mexican dollars) to a point where U.S. old-tenor gold coins became worth more than face value. During the 1820s and early '30s, most Philadelphia gold coins went to bullion dealers, who promptly shipped them out for melting.

K Jan. 1975:___.

GOLD DOLLARS – QUARTER EAGLES

77	1874	Full LIBERTY on ribbon. Choice About Uncirculated. Scarce.
78	1874	Full LIBERTY . Extremely Fine.
79	1879	Low mintage of 3000 business strikes. Choice Extremely Fine.
80	1880	Extremely Fine with solder spot on rim.
81	1881	Attractive Extremely Fine with considerable lustre.
82	1882	Extremely Fine. Appears to have been mounted.
83	1883	Brilliant Uncirculated with mint lustre
84	1885	Brilliant Uncirculated. Recut legend. A Gem quality coin. <i>DS not in my.</i>
85	1886	Recut 6, like overdate. Choice About Uncirculated.
86	1887	Brilliant Uncirculated with prooflike surface on reverse.
87	1888	DOLLAR recut. Brilliant Uncirculated.
88	1889	Last year of issue. Greatly in demand. Brilliant Uncirculated with nice orange toning.

QUARTER EAGLES
U.S. \$2.50 GOLD PIECES – 1796-1929



Lot No. 89

much lustre. Regular vs. ✓ ck 9:00

89	1796	No Stars on obverse. Design by Robert Scot. Capped bust to right. Rev. Heraldic eagle. A great rarity with possibly only 50 known in our estimation. This choice Extremely Fine specimen has lovely unmarred surfaces and truly is one of the nicest we have seen in past years. Greatly in demand for U.S. gold type sets. PLATE
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ALL LOTS MAY BE BID BY MAIL

5

QUARTER EAGLES



Lot No. 90

- 90 1798 Widely spaced date with small 8. Five berries on reverse. Rarity 7. Less than 10 known specimens. Traces of mint lustre. ~~Choice~~ Very Fine. Types such as this are seldom available and we can only suggest you bid high in order to obtain these desirable specimens. PLATE



Lot No. 91

- 91 1802 1 Low mintage of 3035 struck. A lovely Extremely Fine specimen with few marks in field from contact with other coins. PLATE



Lot No. 92

- 92 1804 14 Stars reverse. Low mintage of 3324. A beautiful well centered specimen with faint crack in field to right of date. Faint old scratch through neck. Rarity 5. Less than 75 known. PLATE



Lot No. 93

- 93 1805 Only the one variety known with the small 5 in date. Lovely orange toning. Choice About Uncirculated. Rarity 5. Faint traces of adjustment marks through center clouds. PLATE

QUARTER EAGLES



Lot No. 94

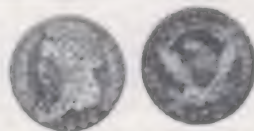
- 94 1806 6 over 4 - Stars 8 left, 5 right. Very rare variety with the heavy die break at LI as pictured in the Raymond "Standard Catalogue." Trifle shallow struck center reverse shield and eagle. Just About Extremely Fine. PLATE *of high center*



Lot No. 95

EXTREMELY RARE
1806 OVER 5 QUARTER EAGLE

- 95 1806 6 over 5 - Stars 7 left, 6 right. Spur at 9th star. 6 touches zero. Variety with faint die breaks from 7th star to top of LIB. Rarity 7. Considerable mint lustre. Much nicer than the specimen in Miles and Pierce sales. Valued at four times as much as the 1806 over 4. Choice Extremely Fine. Worth record bid. PLATE
- 96 1807 Last year of this type. Lustrous Extremely Fine or slightly better. Only 6812 struck. Very much in demand.



Lot No. 97

EXTREMELY RARE
1808 QUARTER EAGLE

- 97 1808 Capped bust to left. Third type of Quarter Eagle and only year of this type. Design by John Reich. Choice Extremely Fine with considerable lustre. Portions of milling missing as struck. Always in demand and missing from most "type" sets. Will continue to enhance in value. PLATE *our AU/EF is in much or usual*

ALL LOTS MAY BE BID BY MAIL

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QUARTER EAGLES



Lot No. 98

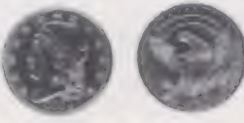
98 1824 4 over 1, but no traces of overdate due to wear. Only About Fine obverse with even wear and Very Fine reverse. A scarce type coin. PLATE

99 1825 Evenly worn Very Good to Fine with traces of mint lustre on reverse. A difficult type to obtain and even in this low grade worth a substantial bid. y/f



Lot No. 100

100 1827 Low mintage of 2800 pieces struck. Obverse sharp about Extremely Fine except for faint signs of retooling in front of nose. Reverse sharp Extremely Fine. Rarity 5. Seldom offered. PLATE



Lot No. 101

101 1830 Mintage only 4540. This is a lovely lustrous Extremely Fine specimen. Sharply struck. Types of this quality very difficult to obtain now. PLATE



Lot No. 102

102 1832 Sharp Extremely Fine with some handling marks; tiny nick, old scratch. Mintage again low, only 4400 struck. We doubt very much if there are 100 pieces still in existence. The time to buy this type is now. Bid to buy! PLATE

QUARTER EAGLES



Lot No. 103

- 103 1833 Probably purchased around 1915 (?) because coin came from Henry Chapman and cost \$7.50. The original Chapman envelope and ticket with lot. Grading by the conservative Mr. Chapman Very Good and today we feel at least Fine would be acceptable. Scarce. PLATE *only F*
- 104 1834 No Motto. New type. Prooflike Brilliant Uncirculated with faint handling marks. Scarce this nice. *II-1 plate 92* *✓* *from 19 via north*
- 105 1836 Nice Very Fine. Scarce.
- 106 1837 Fine-Very Fine. Low mintage. Scarce.
- 107 1838 Broad rim with narrow denticles. Attractive pale original toning. Choice Extremely Fine.
- 108 1839-0 Mint mark above date on obverse. Nice Very Fine. Scarce.



Lot No. 109

- 109 1839-C Mint mark above date. Recut 39. Faint die breaks on obverse. A choice lustrous About Uncirculated specimen. Sharply struck. (With the H. Chapman, Jr. envelope and ticket - the original owner paid \$4.00 for this coin.) PLATE *34 not in my mag. 1/13/80. AS-7* *shattered die* *✓* *from 19 via north* *old chg*
- 110 1839-D 39 over 38. Mint mark above date. Very low mintage. Struck on faulty planchet with lamination at TES on reverse. Overall Fine-Very Fine.
- 111 1841-C Attractively toned. Choice About Uncirculated. Sharp strike. *ch-ov B2 17*
- 112 1843 Large date. Very Fine.
- 113 1843-D Mint mark high, touches end of arrows. Choice Very Fine.
- 114 1843-O Small date. Faint die crack connects bottom of date. Mint mark high. Choice Extremely Fine.

ALL LOTS MAY BE BID BY MAIL

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Cynics Dictionary WB's ms.

numismatics n. A scholarly veneer over competitive greed (see Five Finger Word). Subject of public delusions that identify old coins as automatically valuable. A form of the passion to own something other collectors lack. A combination of "be first in your block to have it" and "beggars your neighbor," often adding "mine's better than yours," and "I just got it cheaper." 260
I say this with the more freedom, having been a numismatic consultant for thirty-odd years. *John*

coin n. 1. A form of metallic power. 2. Measure of everything and nothing. 3. Solid symbol of a mathematical abstraction. 4. Game counter in business and coin collecting, worthless except when being given up: compare money, coin dealers, numismatists. 5. Means of immortalizing rulers whose subjects often would rather forget them: see numismatics. 6. Popular

322

four-letter word.

Repeat the word often enough and it sounds like "Oink, oink, oink!" (Thank you, Pat Breen.)

coincidences n. Local symmetries in the vast flux of random.

Compare causality, because, karma. The meaningful kind Jung called synchronicity (1961) may indicate common ancestry for the patterns. Vaughan (1979):202-226 and passim. Accordingly, many religionists call them "God's sealed orders," "God's way of remaining anonymous."

"Once is an event, twice is a coincidence, thrice is a pattern." --Heuristic truism.

coin collectors n.phr. Prey of coin dealers. Potential

numismatists; therefore, potential cherrypickers.

The game of numismatics is not for the ignorant or the unwary. Its motto is Caveat emptor 'Let the buyer beware.' Beware especially of promotions aimed at the general public (usually offering allegedly rare silver dollars at allegedly bargain prices); learn all you can about grading; do comparison shopping; know your dealer--and his reputation among other dealers. Before you buy anything, read Yeoman (1987) for an overview. More specialized information is in Breen (1987).

coin dealers n.phr. Apt to believe themselves prey of

cherrypickers. Nevertheless, many brag to their peers about

the rarities they just cherrypicked from some walk-in yokel. .

Prov. 20:14; Isaiah 24:16. Compare double standard.

Even some of the least educated display the title
"Professional Numismatist", like Eeyore's tail pinned to his
rump.

Their pitfalls are greed, dishonesty, and stupidity. For
antidotes, see preceding.

God bless the rare exceptions.